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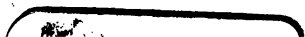
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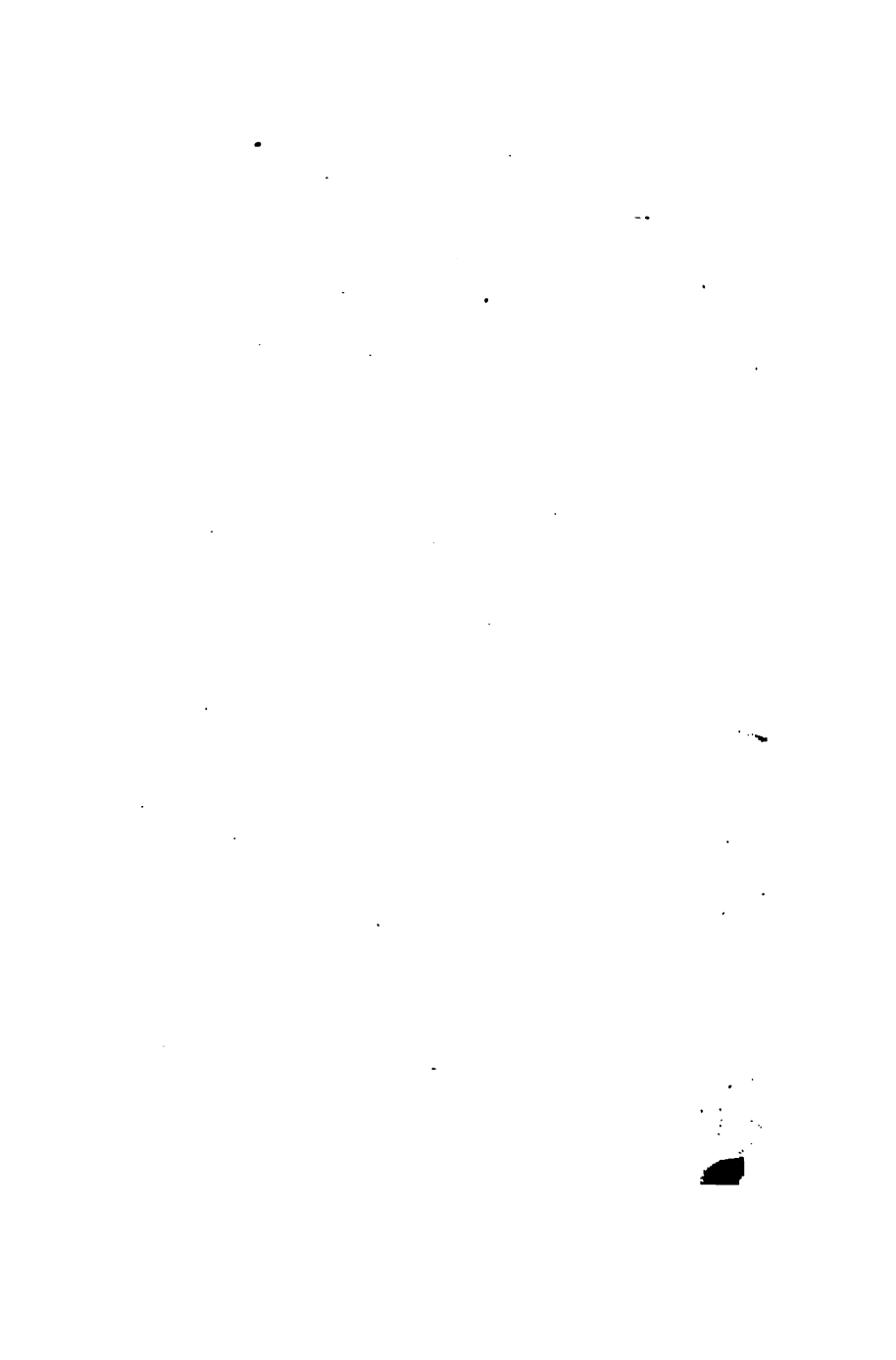


At the ...

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Abraham Fisher
A
DIARY

OF THE
RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

OF
MARY WARING,

DAUGHTER OF ELIJAH AND SARAH WARING;

LATE OF GODALMING.

LONDON:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY WILLIAM PHILLIPS,
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PREFACE.

NOT many compilations, similar to that presented to the Reader in the following pages, have been of late, if ever, published in our religious Society. Various excellent and interesting Journals have indeed from time to time been printed, and have met with much acceptance. These generally consist of two distinct, and well-marked divisions. The first relates, for the most part, the author's early visitations, his baptismal conflicts, the dangers into which he has fallen, and the deliverances which he has experienced. This, though commonly the smaller part, is often fraught with ample stores of instruction and encouragement ; for as not any work is comparable to the work of Christian redemption ; so, next to the experience of its progress in ourselves, it is interesting to observe it in others. It is strengthening to those who are setting out in earnest in the Christian's path ; and

animating to such as have already made advances in it. The other part usually informs us of the course which the Christian soldier, already in good measure trained, has been led in following the Captain of his salvation; and as these journals are generally those of friends eminent for public services, this part has much to keep up our attention by its variety, and to excite our admiration by the magnitude of the services performed. Here too, sometimes, the depth of the baptism, and the strength of the holy arm, which carries through it the humble and devoted servant of the Lord, are conspicuously detailed.

But this diary, though tending to the same purpose, the exaltation of the name of Christ, our Redeemer, and the encouragement of his humble followers (who, feeling no might of their own, are glad of the least touch of his assisting hand, and rejoice in ascribing to him all the praise), pursues a course sometimes varying from the journals which have been hinted at. It is indeed that of a private, and with respect to the Society at large, even in England, almost an obscure individual. It does not relate her religious

exercises in youth ; for it begins with her thirty-first year, and at a time when most who knew her would probably think her a fixed character on the side of religion, and one, whose foundations were already well laid on the rock. As it goes on, it relates little more than the regular attention to what are called common and daily duties. And it is for this very reason, probably, adapted to the generality of readers in private life ; if they be but such as think it important to attend daily to the concerns of their immortal part ; and to take, amidst the variety of scenes in which they are engaged, some time to consider whether their habits, dispositions and practices are pleasing to God.

To those who neglect this important inquiry, what can be said ; what can be written ?

Some persons who take up this volume may think that the frequently repeated relations of experiences nearly similar, are tedious to be read ; but it may be doubted whether such critics will be found among the hungry souls, or the abased ones. These will probably recollect that, in like manner

as the wants of the body recur from the same existing cause, and are relieved by similar means ; the general wants of the soul also, arising from the operation of causes which are long permanent, will continue to require a supply of the same remedies. These also will be likely to perceive that even in the sameness of the feelings of the writer, there is a life which not only prevents satiety, but which diffuses animation over her soliloquies : in which may be discovered the humble perseverance of a quickened mind, and abundant glimpses of the unfailing care of the Head of the church over his suppliant servants.

There is one remarkable particular in this diary, at which it may be worth while a little to hint, namely the numerous instances, where good meetings are spoken of, meetings where truth was in dominion. Some will be likely to question the ability of the relator to judge of this ; will confine these feelings to her own well prepared mind ; and thus may discourage themselves from expecting to find, in their retirements in spirit, what she found in her lowly waiting upon the Lord. It is certainly not

easy for one man to judge of the mental feelings, industry, or sloth, of another (and this on the other hand should always make us cautious of supposing that others do not feel the good which we feel); nevertheless it is quite consistent with our principles to believe that a sense may be given to the attentively waiting mind, of the spiritual situation of its companions. But be it even as such may be induced to suppose; is it not still a great encouragement to seek after that state of true hunger and thirst, which has a quick relish of the least degree of spiritual sustenance; and to bear with persevering patience those seasons of spiritual poverty, which excite us to seek aright? "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled." "Blessed," (also, as the same evangelist relates our Lord to have said just before)—"blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Another prominent feature in the subsequent pages, is the frequency of the author's private retirements; which may possibly induce others to seek the same means of consolation and instruction, which seem to

have been singularly blessed to her. There is reason to believe that retirement is one mode pointed out by the good Shepherd, to wean tenderly visited persons from associates who would impede their advancement in the way of the cross ; and to induce them to let their affections centre in spiritual gratifications, and permanent treasures : and much is it to be desired that such as at times feel the gentle attractions of heavenly love, thus “ to sit alone, and keep silence,” would yield to the salutary intimation. They would surely thus experience the Lord to be strength in weakness, a needful supply in want, a safe conductor in the path to salvation.

It is hoped that, among the various descriptions of readers into whose hands these sheets may fall, the newly-awakened may derive encouragement to yield up their wills in simple obedience to the requirings of the Lord, by observing how much is here exemplified that description of the ways of Wisdom, “ Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.” And the deliverances from temptation, the consolations in affliction, and the support in trials

and difficulties, here recorded, may animate the more experienced traveller still to hold on his way, trusting to the Lord alone, to nothing short of the arm of Omnipotence. For though the writer appears often to have had a more ready access to the healing waters, than many think themselves to have attained, yet she was often deeply humbled under a sense of her infirmities, and unworthiness ; taught that in the presence of the Lord no flesh can glory ; and that He alone is able to begin, to carry on, and finally to accomplish his own work.

Of probably the most valuable part of Mary Waring's life, the Diary itself is an accurate account so far as it goes ; and it goes to make the reader acquainted with the inward recesses of her mind. Of her birth, her youth, her general habits, and of her closing moments, let maternal love declare, as follows :

“ My beloved daughter Mary Waring was born the 20th of Third Month, 1760. From a child, she was of an amiable disposition ; but being naturally of a very lively turn, she appeared fond of company, and discovered some inclination for gaiety ; though

far short of divers of her intimate acquaintance; and more readily submitted to parental authority and advice than most.

“ About the 27th year of her age (according to her own account, in a little narrative which she wrote of her spiritual progress) she was favoured with a precious and humbling visitation, which she readily and happily assented to, and became circumspectly concerned to fill up the religious, and other duties called for at her hands. For though she was not placed in an eminent station, either in the church or in the world, yet as far as her circumscribed abilities extended, she discovered the excellency of the Christian character:—in filial duty, in sisterly affection, in tender love to her friends, and in a desire to be helpful to all around her. To attend the chamber of sickness, and, by every endearing consolation in her power, to smooth the bed of death, appeared to be her peculiar province. Nor were these duties confined to her relatives and friends; but she sought out the wretched abodes of poverty, sickness, and distress; and administered advice, comfort, and substantial relief. And where her own ability was

inadequate to supply their necessities, she advocated their cause with the more affluent, in which she seldom failed of success; so that I have sometimes been ready to say with Job, "When the eye saw her, then " it blessed her; and when the ear heard " her, it gave testimony to her."

"She was a secret mourner for the desolations which appear in our Zion; and I believe faithfully discharged her duty as an overseer. Her diligence in attending meetings was exemplary; and her solid sitting therein, often under the tendering influence of Divine love, was helpful and encouraging to others; and her vacant seat is sincerely regretted by her friends, who were feelingly united to her, and have, divers of them, emphatically expressed not only their own loss, but also their tender sympathy with me, under the very close trial I have sustained in my declining years:—to lose such an affectionate child, who had been for a number of years my endeared companion, my ready assistant, and true sympathizer under various afflictive dispensations which it has been my allotment to pass through. But, although nature was ready

to shrink from the bitter cup, yea, at seasons to sink under it, yet in a firm belief that her day's work was done, and her redemption sealed, I have at times been favoured to feel a degree of humble resignation, and to bless the holy hand that both gave, and has taken away; attended with a secret animating hope, that I may ere long be mercifully permitted to rejoin her spirit in the peaceful abodes of unalloyed harmony and bliss.

"She had for a considerable time been in a debilitated state, but there appeared no alarming symptoms till about the middle of the Third Month, 1805, when her complaints increasing, myself and her other friends became very anxious about her, and we prevailed on her to go over to Staines, and consult her brother William Tothill. She set out, accompanied by her brother Kidd, on First-day morn, taking a most affectionate farewell of me, though I believe we neither of us believed it would be the last embrace; but so it proved. For though the medicines seemed to take the desired effect, and on the following Sixth-day, she*

** A medical man.*

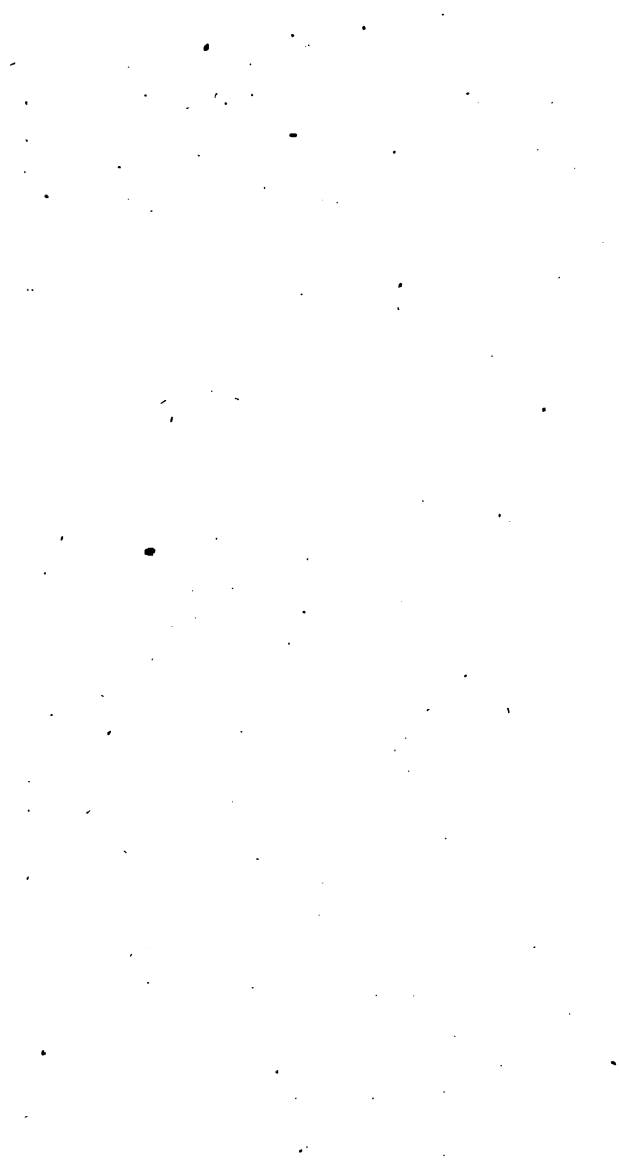
appeared rather better, had walked in the garden, and next morning spoke cheerfully to her friend Sybilla Turnour (who had kindly gone over to see her, and lodged with her); yet, as her friend was getting up, she thought she heard her make an uncommon noise in her throat, ran to her, and called her brother, who came immediately, and had just raised her in his arms, when, alas! she breathed her last in the easiest and quietest manner, without one struggle.*

"Her remains were brought to Godalming, and solemnly interred in our burying ground the 30th of Third month, 1805, attended by a respectful number of her friends and neighbours: aged forty-five years.

"And now, that her beloved nephews and nieces, who revered her living, and lamented her dead, and for whose welfare in the most important concern she was earnestly exercised, may remember the advice she has bestowed on them, and the example she has set them of submitting to the cross; that, like her, they may become useful in their lives, and close their days in perfect peace, is the ardent desire of

S. WARING."

** See Third month, 1805.*



ADVERTISEMENT.

THOUGH this is called, and not wholly without propriety, a Diary, the reader may at once perceive that the memorandums presented to his notice are not those of every day. The relation who first transcribed them, aware of the character of sameness already hinted at, suppressed the remarks of many days, which differed in nothing or little from those which remain; and also others, where family occurrences were detailed in a manner not necessary to be published. Successive revisions of every remaining part have occasioned some further diminution; most of the verbal inaccuracies, which were likely to slip into remarks incidentally made, have been rectified; some few redundancies of expression retrenched; and the texts of Scripture, which are here and there introduced, probably only from memory, generally inserted as they stand in the Bible.

A DIARY, &c.

FIRST MONTH, 1791.

1. **T**HIS being the first day of a new year, I have felt new desires raised in my mind, that I might double my diligence in pursuing those things which make for peace; and spend each day allotted me here in the pure fear of Almighty God. Though it hath been my practice for some years to retire almost daily, to feel after renewed strength to walk uprightly, as well as to see where I have missed my way, and how my accounts stood with the Father of mercies (a practice which I have cause to believe hath been blessed to me); yet I thought it might not be unprofitable to keep some little account in writing of my progress Zion-wards. The looking over past failures may tend to keep me humble; and if blessed with some good days, the remembrance may sometimes serve to revive my drooping faith.

2. Attended both meetings. In the morning, after some conflict with a temptation, which presented itself on my first sitting down, was enabled in some measure to overcome it; and to approach Him in whose presence is fulness of joy: the afternoon rather dull, yet not without some degree of

life. On going to bed a sense of my manifold infirmities humbled me much,

4. Went to meeting this morning. Methought it was a low stripping season, which though not pleasing to the creaturely part, is doubtless beneficial to our souls: that seeing our own insufficiency, we may with more fervency seek help where alone it is to be found.

10. My mind is pained under an apprehension that I have spoken too freely of an absent friend. May it prove a lesson of caution for the future.

11. Went to meeting under much discouragement, and seemed surrounded with infirmity; when, contrary to expectation, the great Physician of value was pleased to appear, to my help and great refreshment. What a favour!

19. I was much humbled at meeting to-day, under a prospect of some little service that I believed would be required of me, and was desirous that I might be qualified for it: well knowing that of myself I can do nothing right; it seeming as if there was scarcely any so weak or poor.

20. I found some evil dispositions arise to-day, which I had to war with for some time. O, that every plant which is not of my heavenly Father's planting might be rooted up and destroyed; that I might be made more pure than gold. This is what my soul at times is led to aspire after, more than riches or length of days.

28. My time so much taken up with nursing my dear father, and with family engagements,

that I have had scarcely any time for retirement these few days past: yet was favoured to keep pretty much in a state of quiet.

SECOND MONTH, 1791.

1. My mind was sweetly affected to-day, on looking over the journal of my beloved niece, to see how honestly she mentioned her faults. O may this employ be blessed to her, and her mind influenced by divine wisdom to distinguish right from wrong; and strengthened to pursue the things that make for peace.

2. Wrote some remarks to my dear niece, encouraging her to proceed in so profitable an employment. O, while I am overlooking others vineyards, that I may not neglect my own.

7. Many trials of patience to-day. Doubt I did not bear them with that meekness, that becometh a professed follower of a crucified Saviour; yet in the evening my mind was sweetly drawn to aspire after purity.

8. Received some affecting accounts of the sudden death of some of my acquaintances. May I be also ready, not knowing how soon the messenger may be sent to my house. O, that it may be set in order.

18. A heart-tendering season at meeting to-day. How sweetly is that saying of our blessed Saviour verified, *even in this day of degeneracy and decay*.

revolt, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Oh, what a favour to feel this gathering arm of divine power extended for our help!

20. A time of much poverty in the fore-part of the meeting, but as I abode in a good degree of patience, was favoured with a little of the inbreaking of light and life.

22. No time these two days for retirement; yet my mind was preserved, I trust, in a good degree of watchfulness and patience; under some unpleasant circumstances.

23. Poor and weak; yet desirous of renewed strength and faithfulness.

24. Some remindings of my heavenly Father's love. How are his mercies renewed every morning.

25. My mind too easily drawn into a wandering state at meeting to-day, out of the hearing of the true Shepherd's voice; which brought me into a state of mourning and abasement.

26. A time of sweet refreshment in my retirement to-day. May I be thankful enough for such a favour.

27. Staid at home from meeting to-day, from necessity, not from choice; yet was favoured to feel Him near me, who is omnipotent, and does not overlook his poor little ones, who are hungering for the bread of life even in their solitary situations. It is with fear and humility that I have thus dared to rank myself of that number; though surely one of the hindermost of the flock.

THIRD MONTH, 1791.

2. Renewed affliction: was thankful to feel some degree of resignation, and my hope and faith were a little strengthened in a sitting in the family, in the evening.

3. Fresh accounts of a distressing nature. O, may we be brought to an entire reliance on that divine arm of strength, which can support and sustain through a sea of conflict: surely else we should faint by the way.

5. My afflictions renewed this evening by fresh intelligence of a distressing nature; and, being deeply humbled, I was permitted to approach the throne of grace, and sweetly refreshed under a belief that the Lord would in his own time heal and bind up the broken-hearted.

6. A favoured time at meeting this morning. My mind deeply humbled with the consideration of the goodness of the Almighty towards me, in his gentle dealings with me; not according to my deserts, but his adorable mercy. Dull and heavy in the afternoon, yet trust the warfare was, in degree, maintained.

7. I trust this day has not been spent wholly in vain; having an opportunity thrown in my way of doing a poor neighbour some service. I am thankful that ability was given.

9. Many occurrences crowded in [during this] day, and my poor mind, I doubt, too much re-

sembled the inn of old, being taken up with many guests, yet I would hope not to the entire exclusion of the blessed babe.

12. My mind a little strengthened and animated to press forward, by reading the experience of a faithful servant of the Lord.

13. A time of sore conflict at meeting; yet, being reduced to a child-like state, methought I was permitted to approach Him who said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not."

16. Taken up these few days past, attending a dying friend: though my feelings were tried, yet I thought the Comforter was near, preserving our minds in a degree of sweet composure; believing that when the conflict with death was over, the grave could have no victory; the sting being taken away.

18. I was much humbled at meeting this morning, under the prospect of desolation in our Zion. How few, how very few, burthen bearers. Was desirous that I might be fitted for one, and not shrink from it.

20. A time of much favour this morning at meeting; yea my cup was made to overflow. The Lord's banner over me was love, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. How unworthy such adorable condescension! In the afternoon some conflict with the spirit of heaviness, but, through mercy, was enabled to overcome it.

24. A day of much bustle, yet found a little

leisure to retire out of it; and centering down to the pure gift, my mind was sweetly refreshed, under a sense of the Lord's continued goodness to one so unworthy.

27. Our preparative meeting, and though my mind was led into mourning at the low state of our discipline, yet thought it a season of renewed favour.

FOURTH MONTH, 1791.

3. Our quarterly meeting began. My mind was affected on seeing a remarkable change in a young man, who I believe had entertained notions bordering on deism, and I was led in silence to adore that goodness, which had thus mercifully extended this extraordinary visitation to him. "Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth more than over ninety and nine just persons:" and surely every sensible mind that is witness to it is made a partaker in this joy. Blessed privilege!

4. To-day, in the meeting for discipline, I was called upon to expose myself as clerk, none else being willing. It was with much fear and trembling that I submitted.

7. My mind sweetly drawn this morning into silence, where I was favoured to experience that "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary,

"and they shall walk and not faint." O, to be enabled to hold on my way.

11. Wrote a letter to a young woman, who is apparently hastening fast to her dissolution. Was fearful she did not think so herself. She received it kindly. O, that it may induce her to turn inward, and see how her accounts stand.

13. Too much encumbered about many things, some of which did not materially concern me. Was taken in the night with such a violent palpitation of the heart, that I scarcely expected to survive the struggle; but thou, O Lord, wast near me, and sustainedst me, and in adorable mercy heardest and relievedst me. O, make me thankful enough, and humble enough.

14. Low and humble to-day, and desirous of being kept so. In the evening met with a severe shock to my feelings.

17. A time of travail in the morning; yet secret counsel was vouchsafed; for which I was humbly thankful. They that would be espoused to Christ must be chaste, both in thought, word, and deed, and entertain nothing that would defile the temple which he is pleased at times to visit.

18. On a review of this day, I feel no condemnation; but hope I have been enabled to step along safely.

21. Conscious of some weakness. Paid a visit to a friend in affliction, in which I had satisfaction.

22. While waiting this morning at meeting,

as I thought, at Wisdom's gate, an unexpected and strong temptation was presented to my mind by the grand adversary; but I trust I did not in any measure join in therewith: and my secret cry to the Lord was for preservation, and that he would be pleased, in his infinite mercy, rather to cut short the thread of my life, than that I should live to dishonour his holy name. Oh, the distress it brought, lest I should be separated from the love of God!

23. My mind renewedly humbled, under a sense of my own weakness, and the subtilty of the unwearied adversary; of which I had a painful proof yesterday. O, to be enabled to draw near him, who can alone preserve from the devourer.

26. This day much given up to family concerns and company, I think I may say in a cross to my own will, feeling some pantings after heavenly bread. A little refreshment before I retired to rest. Oh, the privilege of reposing our cares in Him, who alone is able to sustain the poor drooping soul amidst the many conflicts it has had to encounter, in its passage to (I trust) a better country!

30. Though a silent meeting, yet to my mind a very favoured one, far beyond my deserts: yet towards the conclusion, attacked with sleepiness; which I had reason to fear had prevailed with some, much to their hurt. Oh, the supineness and indifference of some who ought, from their advanced age, to stand as pillars in the church, and

strengthen the weak hands of us who are so much younger !

FIFTH MONTH, 1791.

3. A wrong disposition got up this morning, (even something of murmuring and complaining) on comparing my situation with some others who are more favoured with the company of valuable friends. Was thankful to feel it corrected, and self brought into abasement, on considering the many blessings I enjoy beyond thousands ; and that the best of teachers, who can never be removed into a corner, is ever near, and all-sufficient to those that trust in him. Surely he hath dealt bountifully with me, far beyond my deserts. How ungrateful then to repine at his dispensations ! O, my soul, be thy clothing dust and ashes.

4. More quiet and comfortable to-day, but no time for retirement till after I went to bed ; when I sought Him whom my soul loveth ; and he was pleased to refresh my wearied soul.

8. A favoured time at meeting. How is the Lord pleased, at times, to make the desert blossom as the rose !

9. Poorly in health, and apprehensive by my feelings that I should be quite ill ; yet favoured with resignation to whatever the Lord shall be pleased to dispense, either sickness or health, believing it will be all ordered in best wisdom.

10. Better to-day, which is cause of thankful-

ness; and what is still more so, that I was favoured to approach Him "who is the health of my countenance."

11. A beautiful morning! I rose early, and methought my mind being perfectly calm, resembled the cloudless sky; but meeting with some cross events, was not enough on my guard, but suffered it to be ruffled, which brought me into humiliation; and I was desirous of repairing to the washing pool, that I might be cleansed from every defiling and hurtful thing.

12. Spent good part of the day in profitable reading, which tended to draw my mind heavenward. How much of my time have I squandered in the fore part of my life, in reading books of a pernicious tendency!

23. My mind too much outward, which surely bringeth with it its own punishment—a sensible deprivation of the presence of God. What greater punishment!

24. My mind, having suffered hunger, was led to pant after heavenly bread: which was graciously vouchsafed in my retirement to-day. Oh, this best of blessings! Nothing short of it can satisfy the quickened soul.

29. A time of labour in the morning: yet not deserted by the good Husbandman. Went to meeting in the afternoon in great weakness; when quite unexpectedly, the Lord was pleased to break in upon my soul with his life-giving presence, and by removing the spirit of heaviness, to array it with

the garment of praise : and I believe others were made partakers of the same inestimable blessing.

SIXTH MONTH, 1791.

1. No time for retirement to-day ; yet in my solitary walk met with the beloved of souls, who sweetly attracted me, and melted me into tears under a sense of his goodness and my own nothingness : feeling at that time that all good proceeded from him, and that it is only as we receive ability from him, that we can do any thing aright.

5. A time of sweet encouragement at meeting, this morning. O, that such seasons may be rightly improved. Staid at home in the afternoon, from necessity.

7. No time for retirement to-day ; though I strove hard for it, and was as often disappointed : yet the sweet quiet I felt in the evening induced me to believe that my desires were accepted by the Father of mercies. How much better is it to spend one hour in thy courts than a thousand elsewhere, yea preferable to the most refined delights this world can yield !

10. A time of labour at meeting, being humbly desirous of being directed aright in a little service which I believe was required of me.

11. Wrote a letter to a young man, who I believed had been favoured with an extraordinary visitation, and who I was fearful was going back-

ward. Found peace in discharging what I believed to be my duty, leaving the event.

12. A time of digging deep, yet laboured not in vain, being favoured to drink a little at the pure fountain of life. Afternoon, an uncommonly laborious meeting; and though my mind was deeply exercised for the arisings of life, I could scarcely feel any. Times and seasons are in the Lord's hand; and no doubt but these stripping, proving ones, are intended for a trial of our faith and patience.

13. The rest of this week confined by illness, under which I was preserved in a good degree of composure and resignation to the divine will; and was favoured at seasons, to feel the Physician of value near, whose heavenly presence can shed peace and comfort even on the bed of sickness.

19. Well enough to get to meeting, which I esteemed a favour, and which proved a precious heart-tendering season.

20. A short, but sweet refreshing season to-day, which I thought helped to support me, through an unpleasant conference with the young man to whom I had written. I fear he is in an unsafe spot.

21. My mind a little relieved (though by no means wholly) from the burthen thrown on it yesterday, and is deeply humbled, fearing I have done wrong in giving him my advice; yet thought I did it in much simplicity; and under an apprehension of duty. O, to be rightly directed, is the sincere prayer of my heart.

22. Rather comforted under a belief that I did right in writing, though it had not the desired effect.

25. On a review of this day, think my mind has been too much outward, yet found time for a little retirement, in which it was drawn to aspire after a better state, even perfect holiness.

28. No suitable time for retirement. Caught myself entertaining vain and silly thoughts. Was desirous they might be taken from me, which was granted me; and, though in company, my mind was sweetly attracted upwards, feeling sensibly that all was lighter than vanity when compared with the joys of God's salvation.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1791.

3. Our quarterly meeting not large: I thought the forepart of the meeting heavy, yet not wholly deserted by the great and good Husbandman, who is still mindful of his little ones.

4. The meeting this morning I thought a favoured season; a fresh extension of heavenly regard to the backsliders in our Israel. My poor mind was earnestly turned to the Lord for help and strength, which was graciously given me to go through the service of the meeting as clerk.

6. A close trial this morning in parting with a beloved sister; and the prayer of my heart was to the Father of mercies, that he would be pleased to

be with her in the way that she goes, and be-unto her as a wall of defence on the right hand and on the left.

14. Felt sweetly peaceful this morning, and something of the hovering wing of antient goodness, even while employed in the business of the day: but, alas! for want of watchfulness missed my way; and though it is what many would esteem a small thing, yet I felt it to be wrong. O for more stability. How doth the soul, measurably redeemed from the pollutions of the world, feel even small crimes! I am thankful to feel it so, and earnestly desire that this swift witness against every appearance of evil, may be my constant companion through time.

15. A hard struggle with a spirit of indifference and lukewarmness, which beset me at meeting to-day; but with thankfulness may acknowledge that, in degree, I obtained the victory, through the gracious assistance of Him who saw my feeble endeavours and blessed them: to whom be the praise.

19. Felt comfortable to-day notwithstanding some unpleasant circumstances. Favoured with a little access to the throne of grace; where in deep prostration, my poor wearied soul begged a renewal of strength to hold on its way.

22. A favoured season at meeting this morning; which, methinks, should have proved a sufficient incitement to keep my heart with all diligence, &c. instead of which gave way in the

afternoon to a wandering disposition, and strong flights of imagination, which surely lead from that peaceful and quiet habitation, which, methought my soul enjoyed this morning. O, may it be favoured to get again into the valley, where there is safety.

27. Favoured in my retirement to-day; yet was guilty of a weakness in the evening, in saying *Sunday* to a person not a Friend, for which I felt condemnation, and desire to abide humbly under it.

28. This day passed I trust in humility and fear; and I was favoured in the evening far beyond my deserts, with sweet access to the throne of grace, where I implored forgiveness and more stability for the future.

29. Was desirous this morning at meeting of sitting like Mary of old, at the feet of Jesus; and to be taught of him; when it was shown me that I was not enough pure; that the warfare must be continued, and that daily. O, that I might be thoroughly cleansed:

EIGHTH-MONTH, 1791.

1. Was favoured in my retirement to-day to recur, as it were, to Bethel (where the Lord was first pleased to visit my soul), and gratefully to call to mind his gracious dealings with me. Though his appearance was at first very low and small, even as it is compared to a grain of mustard seed,

yet he was pleased to incline my heart to prize it, and in abundant condescension hath been pleased to encrease my store; and, blessed for ever be his holy name, hath kept me alive to this very day. O, that I may never turn aside to the right hand or the left, but deeply ponder the path of my feet, and let my eye look straight forward.

6. A sweet refreshing season this evening; being favoured to partake of that stream which makes glad the whole heritage of God. How unworthy such goodness! Did not choose to go out this evening, lest I should lose the sweet savour.

8. Deeply humbled to-day under a sense of my own unworthiness, and a fear that my love is not sufficiently pure and chaste towards Christ, who is alone worthy of our affections. O, to be more weaned from the world.

12. A very favoured heart-tendering season this morning at meeting; but towards the close a scheme of benevolence caught my attention; which, though there was something specious in its appearance, drew my mind off its proper watch. Thus can the enemy transform himself as into an angel of light, in order to gain his ends.

17. Shook off sloth, and rose early, that I might have a little time for retirement before the rest of the family were stirring; that, waiting at Wisdom's gate, my mind might be influenced so as to step safely through the day; yet did not feel the divine presence so sensibly as many times.

May I be sufficiently humbled ; not doubting but the deficiency was on my part.

23. A sweet cloudless morning. I rose with a tranquil mind, being desirous of preservation through the day ; and surely I had need of it, finding fresh exercise for my patience.

24. A refreshing time this evening, under the belief that it was nothing short of the good hand of God, that first inclined my heart thus to religious retirement. It was not from any imitation, not knowing any, at the time I began, that were in the practice ; but I can with thankfulness acknowledge, that it hath been abundantly blessed to me.

28. I sensibly felt the divine presence this morning at meeting, and, under a sense of my manifold infirmities, was led to aspire after a greater degree of holiness and renewed strength to walk uprightly ; seeing some who had, I believe, made a good beginning, turning aside from the narrow way ; not being (I fear) humble enough to receive the babe Jesus in his lowly appearance ; but perhaps expecting great things, and looking as some did formerly for signs and wonders.

31. Very well in my bodily health, yet favoured with a renewal of strength to press forward.

NINTH MONTH, 1791.

1. A very trying day, and my spirits, being weak from indisposition, could hardly bear up

under it; yet earnestly desired an increase of patience and humble resignation under every allotment, however trying.

2. A stripping time at meeting. I felt weak, poor, and helpless, like a little child; having nothing of my own, and scarcely strength to ask for a little help.

4. A precious meeting in the morning. In the afternoon, after labouring for about an hour, without gaining what my soul longed for, these words opened livingly in my mind, "He trod the wine-press alone, and of the people there was none with him," which tendered me exceedingly; and the language of my soul was, that I might not be like those formerly who followed him for the sake of the loaves and fishes; but that I might be willing to be his faithful companion in tribulation, believing, that if ever I entered the kingdom it must be through suffering.

13. Went a journey, and poorly in health, so that I could not have retired but with difficulty, and am fearful of appearing more in shew than in substance; yet thought I felt good near, and was preserved in a degree of quiet and (I trust) innocence.

21. "The heart knoweth his own bitterness;" and were it not that I am sometimes favoured to partake of that joy with which the stranger cannot intermeddle, surely my heart would have fainted long ago.

24. A favoured season this morning! Surely

the oftener we repair to the fountain, the more likely we are to keep our garments unspotted of the world.

25. A time of labour the forepart of the meeting; yet being desirous of patiently abiding under it, the clouds at length were dispelled; and the Lord was pleased to arise with healing under his wings; for which favour may all that is within me magnify his adorable name.

27. A severe struggle this morning with indisposition. What a favour, in such seasons of distress, to feel the Physician of value near; and Oh, what an unspeakable favour to have a well-grounded hope, that when this earthly tabernacle shall decay, we shall have a better mansion prepared for us; even a house eternal in the heavens!

29. No time for retirement to-day; yet felt my mind sweetly-attracted upwards, several times in the course of the day; especially in the evening when in company, so that I could scarcely refrain from tears.

TENTH MONTH, 1791.

3. Our quarterly meeting at Esher. A precious heart-tendering time at meeting this morning, after some conflict. At the conclusion of the meeting for worship, received the affecting intelligence of the death of my beloved uncle Jeremiah Waring, which affected most, if not all friends present: his removal being considered a publick

loss. Many said, 'We have lost a father;' for such he was to the meeting he belonged to. Alas, who is there likely to fill the vacant seats of the worthies removed! May the Lord of the harvest be pleased to raise up some; for surely the state of things in this quarter is lamentable!

6. Have dwelt much in the valley these last three days; though I met with some interruptions, from company, yet it hath seemed a weaning time. Q for a more perfect dedication of heart to the Lord and his service.

9. Went to Alton, to the funeral of my beloved uncle; the company much smaller than it would otherwise have been, owing to the very wet weather. The fore-part of the meeting I thought much favoured; feeling that which is beyond words. A solemn pause at the grave, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather.

12. Was at Alton week-day meeting; at which though I found enough to do to keep my mind upon the watch, yet I think on the whole it was a favoured season. Returned home in the afternoon; found all well: fresh cause for thankfulness and lowliness!

14. "Stand in awe, and sin not," was sweetly impressed on my mind soon after my first sitting down in meeting; and a refreshing season it proved, my soul being led as into fresh and green pastures; yea, I was made to lie down and rest as at noon-day. Oh, that one so unworthy should be favoured with this blessed experience! Not

withstanding, before the meeting closed, I got off my watch: such is the instability of human nature when left to itself.

16. A time of close exercise this morning at meeting, in which I had to believe, that my feet would be turned into a narrower path than I had hitherto walked in, and that the day of the Lord must come upon all pleasant pictures. O, may I be enabled to dwell with the consuming fire, and freely give up to the sword that which is appointed for destruction.

22. My strength a little renewed this morning in my retirement. How sweet and profitable are these seasons!

23. A refreshing season at meeting this morning: yea, I thought the stone was rolled from the well's mouth, so that my soul, with some others present, was favoured to drink freely of the waters of life. O, that all were gathered to this fountain; then would there not be so many barren ones amongst us, as is now sorrowfully the case.

26. Received the affecting account of the death of a relation, who hath left a wife with four small children. It hath shown to my mind the necessity of digging deep; that when afflictions like these are permitted to come, we may know a safe hiding place from the storm.

29. Surely my mind resembles the dove after making excursions from the ark (that place of safety); but, finding no rest for the sole of her

foot, returns wearied, yet with delight, to it. And Oh, the adorable goodness of God ! How is he, as it were, putting forth his hand and receiving me into this quiet habitation ! O, that I may never stray from it.

31. My mind a little animated to press forward in the heavenly race, by reading a sweet account of a youth but sixteen years of age ; yet who had far outstripped me. O, may it excite to increasing vigilance and circumspect walking ; that I also may at the conclusion of time, have an inheritance among the saints, and spirits of just men made perfect.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1791.

2. Company and visiting have taken up much of my time to-day : yet could not go comfortably to bed without feeling after the divine healing virtue, and taking a solemn review of the day, in which I felt no condemnation : so went to bed in peace.

4. Strengthened in my solitary sitting to-day ; being favoured to partake of the water which is freely offered to those that seek it. Oh, that so many should slight so great a blessing !

7. Have spent my time to-day in good and profitable company, and my mind much occupied in an affair of some importance ; yet upon a review, think I might have stolen a little time for retirement, that I *might* have had the more full enjoy-

ment of *his* presence which I ought to prefer to every consideration, and which I, sometimes, hope I do: but through the instability of nature, oftentimes miss my way.

11. A precious season at meeting this morning, though a silent one, and but very few there; yet surely we were favoured to feel that gracious promise verified, that where two or three are gathered in the name of Christ, there will he be in the midst of them.

13. Another favoured meeting; and notwithstanding, as Benjamin Kidd had to express, many, considering our small number, are sick and weakly, and some asleep; yet the Lord is still graciously remembering Zion, and satisfying her poor with bread.

20. Confined these two last days by indisposition. It was some trial to be kept from meeting; but knowing whence all good cometh, and waiting in my solitary sitting to feel him, who is omnipresent, near to sustain my feeble mind, he was graciously pleased to revisit my soul with his life-giving presence. In the afternoon had a little conference with a dear niece, in which I imparted some spiritual advice; being anxiously concerned that she may seek the God of her Fathers, now in her youthful days.

21. Poor, weak, and low, both as to my outward and inward state. How do I long, like the poor woman formerly, to touch but the hem of *his* garment, that I might be made whole.

23. A little revived and comforted to-day, in the belief that I am still preferring Jerusalem to my chief joy. O, may "my right hand forget her cunning," and "my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth," rather than I should desert a cause so precious.

25. In my silent sitting at meeting this morning, some clear openings. How is the Lord hiding the mysteries of his kingdom now, as formerly, from the wise and prudent of this world, and revealing them to babes and sucklings! For ever blessed be his holy name!

27. When I brought my gift to the altar to-day, I saw that I had done something which was to be removed before it could be accepted; yet, endeavoured to reason it away, thinking it was too trifling to be required; but it was clearly shown me, that I was not to look at the smallness of the sacrifice, if the Lord saw meet to require it at my hands, who "seeth not as man seeth." I am thankful that I was enabled to take up the cross and yield obedience; in which I found peace. May I ever thus attend to the pure discoveries of this divine teacher.

29. Spent the fore-part of the day profitably; but walking out in the evening met with several acquaintances, with whom I conversed; and my mind got too much into the spirit of the world which separates from the spirit of Christ. Feeling this to be my situation, endeavoured to turn inward and *feel after* that which crucifies to the

world; and was favoured to feel my strength a little renewed.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1791.

3. Another affecting instance of the uncertainty of time, in the sudden removal of dear Mary Merryweather, a mother in our Israel. A stripping time surely!

4. How frequently necessary are the operations of the sword of the spirit, to separate betwixt the precious and the vile; and though it is painful to the creaturely part, yet am thankful to feel this work going on. O, that it may remove (though it may divide as betwixt the joints and the marrow) every thing that is contrary to the pure mind and will of the Lord, is the sincere prayer of my heart.

6. My mind sweetened and refreshed by the renewed visitation of the heavenly Father's love, very early this morning before day-light, as I lay on my pillow; so that I can say from some degree of living experience, good is the Lord and worthy to be feared and served for ever.

11. A favoured season at meeting, both morning and afternoon. It was shown me that I should dwell more in the meekness; and my heart was affected with the recollection of our blessed Saviour's example of meekness and patience under suffering. O, that I might, indeed, be enabled *to follow him whithersoever he is pleased to lead.*

14. Have been confined these three days by indisposition, having had another attack of the palpitation. The struggle was so violent, that had not the arm of the Lord been underneath, I think I never could have survived it; but though the billows rose high they were not permitted to overwhelm me. I still feel weak and low every way, yet have not cast away my confidence, believing the Lord is still near, though he is pleased at times to hide, as it were, his face from me.

15. A sweet refreshing season to-day, attended with an earnest desire that I may not be found in an unprepared state to meet the Bridegroom of souls. O, that I may be preserved chaste in my love to him is the earnest breathing of my soul.

18. In the fore part of the meeting the enemy was near spreading his snares, and seeking to draw my poor mind off its watch; but my eye and cry being to the Lord, who beheld the conflict, he was pleased, in gracious condescension, to appear for my help, and the renewal of my strength. May I walk more worthy such unmerited goodness.

19. "Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life," I find it so; but, O, may I never grow weary of striving to enter in, nor faint in my mind; ever keeping in remembrance that the crown is at the end of the race.

21. Let the day pass over without retiring, suffering little things to prevent me: but not feeling *easy under this omission*, when I retired to rest, I

besought the Lord to forgive me, and strengthen me in future to follow him more faithfully, being desirous to wash mine hands in innocency, that so I might encompass his holy altar.

26. Oh, the daily warfare that must be maintained, if we would run the Christian race! nothing short of a frequent supply of divine nourishment can enable us to endure the combat.

31. And now I am come to the close of the year. On looking back I am a little revived with the hope, that if I have not made much progress I have not been going backward; and though I still feel myself a poor weak creature, yet I have abundant cause of thankfulness that I am still preserved in the land of the living, notwithstanding the many assaults of an unwearied enemy. Though I know not what trials may await me, yet I desire not to be anxious about the future; but rest in a firm reliance on the Lord, that whatever he may see meet to dispense, will be for my good, even as for daily bread. May I be preserved in it, and then *let* come what *will* come, I believe it will be *well* with me. Oh! this state of humble dependence is very precious in my sight.

FIRST MONTH, 1792.

4. I am truly desirous that I may not be more in show than substance. A specious outside may impose on men, but the Lord is a heart-searching

God; yea, "he trieth the reins." Search me, O Lord, and know my ways, and if iniquity be found within me, be pleased to take it away; it is in thy sight I desire to stand acquitted, let others think of me as they will.

6. A silent meeting, yet to me a season of refreshment, being favoured with a little of the celestial rain. How precious are these watering seasons! surely they are intended to encrease fruitfulness, may mine bear some proportion to the labour bestowed by the good husbandman, who is so frequently raising good desires in my mind; but, alas! how are they often weakened by the lowering concerns of this world!

12. My mind was led in my retirement to-day, to press after heavenly treasure, which alone can enrich, and is not subject to decay; nor will it ever wax old like a garment. Oh, the excellency of divine love: how far doth it transcend even the most refined delights of this world; antient, yet ever new! May I dwell under its holy, preserving, sweetening influence.

16. "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly," "but the hand of the diligent maketh rich;" may I be of this number.

18. How do I love to feel self-abased, and my soul reduced to a child-like state, believing it to be acceptable in the sight of the Father of mercies!

20. A humbling time at meeting, under a belief that something would be required of me.

which would be a great cross to my natural disposition ; yet am desirous of dwelling low, and, if the concern should continue, that I may be enabled to do it faithfully, though it should cost me the regard of the person reproved.

24. A dreadful alarm of fire in the night on our premises ; but through the unspeakable goodness of Providence, it was got under without any material damage. O, how do I desire to be made thankful enough for this renewed instance of divine preservation ! But alas ! I feel so poor and exhausted, both in mind and body, that I fear my gratitude is not enough lively and fervent : yet a little hope revives my drooping soul that our merciful Creator, who knows the weakness of our frame, will be pleased to accept the integrity of my heart.

25. Still indisposed and poorly from the late shock ; yet having been favoured with a little of the fresh incomes of heavenly love, which is sweeter to my taste "than the honey and the honey-comb," I could desire nothing further ; this enjoyment being more than a counterbalance for every trial.

28. Have been taking a review of the former part of my life, which was mostly spent in folly and vanity, few, I think, exceeding me therein, as far as I dared ; yet, I remember I frequently felt remorse, and had at times good desires raised in my mind after a better state, but having a wrong example in some unprofitable associates, I became

greatly estranged and wandered far; yet in unspeakable love the good Shepherd remembered me, when I had forgotten him days without number; and about the twenty-seventh year of my age he stretched forth his crook, and gently drew me back into his fold. How is my heart tendered with a sense of his goodness as I write, that he should preserve my life until he had brought me acquainted with himself, and shown me the joys of his salvation. May these things sink deep in my heart, frequently pondering how much I owe to the Lord.

SECOND MONTH, 1792.

1. Suffered my mind to be ruffled and soured by some cross occurrences this morning; which, however, I strove to suppress, and believe it was not discovered by others; but that did not satisfy me, not feeling that sweet peace which I prize above every other enjoyment. I retired awhile, and, centering down out of the cumbers and cares which had perplexed, was favoured to feel something of that healing virtue, which now, as formerly, heals every malady, and alone restores peace and tranquillity within our borders.

2. A pretty comfortable day, and I hope not spent in vain. Agreeable tidings in the evening of some ministering friends likely to come this way; which humbled me under a sense of the goodness

of the Almighty, who had thus inclined their hearts to visit this poor spot.

5. When I brought my deeds to the light in my silent sitting at meeting this morning, methought I discovered in myself an eye too quick-sighted to the failings of others, and not enough so to my own; and begged that eye might be plucked out, with every thing that is of an offensive nature.

11. On a review of this day think I may venture to say it hath been usefully and profitably spent.

13. A bustling day, being that of Godalming fair, yet I endeavoured to keep my mind as much out of it as I could; and, finding a little leisure, took a solitary walk out of the noise and bustle, in which my mind was sweetly impressed with a lively sense of the many blessings I enjoyed beyond thousands. It melted me into tears, and my heart overflowed with gratitude to the bountiful Author of them to one so unworthy. The day being very fine, and these impressions rendering my walk truly delightful, it was with reluctance I quitted the tranquil spot for the hurry and noise of the town.

17. I found it hard work this morning at meeting to keep my poor weak mind from roving hither and thither, nor could I find a resting place, though I sought it with many tears, till near the conclusion, when I got more stayed, and felt a degree of sweetness cover my mind.

23. Rose this morning a little after two o'clock to watch with my dear uncle Kidd, who having several fine sleeps, I was desirous of improving this season of solemn quiet to my own advantage, by repairing to the inexhaustible fountain of all effectual help, feeling afresh my inability to do any thing aright, even to direct my own thoughts; for alas! are they not evil continually unless preserved under the pure influence of his holy fear? O, that my soul might be arrayed therewith as with a garment, to defend it from the various assaults of an unwearied enemy. My mind sweetened and refreshed by this opportunity.

24. In our little silent gathering to-day my mind was replenished with celestial showers, yea, I was enamoured with the goodness and loving kindness of God, thus extended to the meanest of his works. What an unspeakable favour, that we finite creatures, should, while in the body, be permitted to feel in degree the weight of that glorious crown which is reserved for those that hold out to the end; but these seasons are rare, and intended doubtless to animate our faith; not that we should tabernacle here, but press forward for the *mark*. O may I move on in fear and humility, and so witness preservation in heights as well as in depths.

THIRD MONTH, 1792.

4. When I sat down in meeting this morning a prayer arose in my heart, that I might be pre-

served from forming to myself any likeness or image, and that I might be enabled to worship the living God in spirit and in truth, which petition, I trust, was measurably granted. The afternoon I thought rather heavy, yet not altogether uninteresting, it being shown me that there is but one path which leads to life. Oh, what need then of increasing watchfulness!

5. Though by no means an idle day, yet I let trifling thoughts put by my retiring awhile to feel after a renewal of strength. Felt uneasy at this omission on going to bed, nor could I give sleep to mine eyes, till I had humbled myself before the Almighty, and craved the continuance of his fatherly protection.

8. & 9. Comfortable as to the outward: when that is the case I have often had to remark the enemy is most busy with his assaults; yet by frequently retiring inward to Him, whose name is a strong tower, I hope he hath not prevailed so as to destroy the good seed of the kingdom: strong have been my cries to the Lord that he would be pleased to preserve me from this devourer.

11. A searching time this morning at meeting. Oh, how did I desire that every unclean thing might be brought forth and slain: that nothing might be spared, which was appointed for destruction; that the temple of my heart being made clean, the Lord might delight to take up his abode there! I felt his love afresh extended towards me; and my soul was prostrated before

him under a sense of his matchless goodness, and my own unworthiness.

14. Was thankful to feel a wrong disposition corrected. O, may I ever attend to the secret reproofs of this divine Instructor, who would assuredly lead out of all error and guide me into all truth; but, alas, how often do I miss my way, for want of a more steady adherence thereto; and so multiply crosses and difficulties, which more watchfulness might prevent!

23. My mind affected this morning with the account of the dangerous illness of a relation, who, I fear, is not fully prepared for the solemn change; and the prayer of my heart was, that she might be spared a little longer; in hopes she might improve so great a mercy to her everlasting benefit.

24. Felt weak and poor in my solitary sitting to-day, yet no room for repining, believing it my due, having idled away several hours before in frivolous reading.

27. The quarterly meeting at Alton; which I believe was a season of renewed favour to many minds: but being indisposed with head-ache, and meeting with many Friends, unsettled my mind. I found it hard work to keep on the watch, so that I partook but in a small degree of divine good: yet in the meeting for discipline, was sweetly tendered at the reading of the testimony concerning dear Mary Merryweather; and living desires arose in my mind to that gracious Power, which had preserved her through the vicissitudes of time,

and at length centered her out of the reach of the enemy, that he would also be pleased to preserve me to the same happy conclusion. Nor can I doubt his watchful providence, who hath hitherto supported me and poured unnumbered blessings on my head; it is my own weakness I fear, knowing the frailty and deceitfulness of my own heart, lest I should one day or another fall by the way.

29. My mind sweetly refreshed in my silent sitting to-day on reading the two last chapters in the Revelations, as it hath often been. O, that I may so walk as to become an inhabitant of that excellent city where nothing that is defiled or can annoy shall ever enter.

FOURTH MONTH, 1792.

1. Our quarterly meeting begun. Soon after I sat down in meeting I was made sensible that Divine Good was near, by the sweet quiet I felt my mind drawn into, which holy covering I believe spread over many minds, if not all, in the meeting, so that it proved a heart-tendering season.

2. In the meeting for worship the extending of heavenly regard was renewedly felt, and I believe some whose minds were deeply centered, went away richly laden; I also partook in degree, but being too much like Martha, encumbered about

many things, I found it hard work to keep my mind stayed, so that I believe I suffered loss: yet was enabled to get through the business of the meeting to admiration; which is cause of thankfulness, that I should be at all fitted, or in any degree qualified, for service in the church; yet I well know from whence my help cometh.

6. Our monthly meeting, which I attended, and in it my strength was a little renewed, notwithstanding the confirmation of a painful occurrence, the grievous fall of one who had been signally favoured.

10. A little encouraged to hold on my way, having had renewedly to believe that the Lord is still graciously near for my preservation and help. A fresh incitement to love, fear, and trust in him. In the evening falling into company my mind was too much leavened into the spirit of the world.

11. Went to Guildford to meet two Friends in the ministry. They were led (in meeting) in close searching testimonies. O, that it might awake the careless and lukewarm, some of whom seem settled as on the lees. An encouraging time in a friend's family to the young folks. In the evening meeting here, as well as in several sittings, they were led to encourage and animate us to press forward for the mark for the prize of the high calling, which is Christ Jesus. Oh, how was my soul prostrated in deep reverence and thankfulness, under a renewed sense that the

Lord had not forgotten Zion, but was thus sending his faithful servants to comfort her waste places, and cause the solitary to rejoice: my soul was nearly united to them and humbled that I should ever be counted worthy to feel this precious unity, which is surely the bond of peace, and still remains the badge of discipleship.

13. Another favoured heart-tendering season in our little gathering to-day; yea, my cup was made to overflow; but before the meeting closed I let in a fear that some trial might succeed this enjoyment (having before found it so), and so it proved; but keeping near the centre and safe-hiding place, my mind was preserved in a good degree of peaceful quiet under it, so that I hope the enemy had no advantage.

15. A heavy meeting; in which my mind was much exercised that I might not give way to the slothful disposition which I believed too much prevailed over the meeting in general (a very few excepted), and I was strengthened to maintain the watch for some time; but afterwards lost ground, and before the meeting closed got from the true centre into a wandering disposition.

25. Gave way too much to a roving disposition, for which I was humbled in the evening: in other respects a well-spent day. Surely it is profitable thus often to retire and see whereabouts we are. I find it so, and believe it has been blessed to me; yet how many do I see running on days, months, and years, without seeming to

take any account how they spend their time. Alas! I often think how will they be able to stand so long a reckoning with that God whom they have forgotten days without number! I find enough to do to keep my accounts clear by short reckonings.

27. A season of renewed favour in our little silent gathering to-day. O, that some of our careless profession would come, taste, and see for themselves, how good the Lord is to them that fear him. Then would they not let trifling things hinder them from attending week-day meetings, as is now sorrowfully the case.

29. I sat down in the afternoon meeting under discouragements, thinking we had a poor company; but my eye and cry being to the Lord (who is alone able to help us) that he would be pleased to enable me to maintain the watch, he, in great condescension, granted my request, and sweetly tendered my spirit before him. May I walk worthy such unmerited favours. I sometimes think when I sit thus broken in our meetings, that I am as a gazing-stock to those who, for want of coming under the operation of truth on their own minds, are ready to account it a strange thing; but, O, may I ever count it matter of rejoicing to be thought a fool for Christ's sake.

FIFTH MONTH, 1792.

6. Called on dear uncle Kidd before I went to meeting, who is confined to his bed by indisposition. He enquired if I was going to meeting; I told him I was; he then desired I would think of him when it was well with me; which greatly humbled me even to tears, considering my weakness and infancy, and how much more I stood in need of his prayers, who appears near the end of his pilgrimage, while I poor creature, have made but few advances in the heavenly race. Under these considerations I went to meeting, which proved a season of encouragement. In the afternoon felt something that would have exalted self, for which I felt gently corrected. Oh, how did it humble me! and yet I secretly rejoiced to find the best of guides and instructors so near, inclining mine ear to hearken, and mine heart to receive instruction. With what delight did I sit under his teachings!

13. Deborah Darby, Rebecca Young, and Frederick Smith attended our meetings, both morning and afternoon. In the former they bore living testimonies to the excellency of the truth as it is in Jesus; encouraging those in whose hearts the day-star had arisen to follow on, and not shrink from suffering; and inviting, in persuasive language, those who were at a distance to come and see for themselves how good the Lord is. The

meeting concluded in heart-tendering supplication.

14. Accompanied our beloved friends to Guildford. Another favoured meeting, and a precious opportunity in a friend's family, not soon, I hope, to be forgotten by some present; and, by one in particular, to whom I believe a merciful invitation is extended. I gave up to what I believed a small pointing of duty in cautioning the person in question not to suffer his present impressions to be easily effaced.

16. Preparing for attending the yearly meeting, my mind was unexpectedly tendered under the consideration, that though I was now leaving home in full health and strength, yet I might never live to return; which thought, however, was not distressing to me, but the prayer of my heart was that I might be preserved in innocence, and prepared to meet the awful summons whenever it should please the Father of mercies to send it to my house; that so the solemn messenger may not prove a king of terrors.

21. Our women's yearly meeting began this afternoon; and, I think, I never felt the divine covering more evidently spread over a meeting [than] soon after our first sitting down, so that many were broken into tears before a word was spoken.

SIXTH MONTH, 1792.

4. No suitable time for retiring to-day, yet

was preserved in much quiet ; and, I trust, in a good degree of the Lord's holy fear.

11. A busy day ; yet I still retain a lively sense of a sweet impression with which my mind was favoured while employed in outward occupations. A circumstance occurred, which led me a little to look forward to some trials which might await me ; and the thought struck me, how I should be supported under them ; when I felt such an unusual sweetness cover my mind as seemed to remove every anxious fear, and my faith was strengthened to believe, that the Lord, who was thus graciously caring for me, would not permit any thing to befall me but what he would enable me to bear.

12. On setting down the above remark, which I had no time for yesterday, my mind has been renewedly humbled, under a sense of the Lord's goodness ; and methought I could do no less than set up, as stones of memorial, such signal blessings vouchsafed to one so unworthy. O, may they never rise in judgment against me.

21. A busy morning : went in the afternoon to Guildford to meet dear Martha Howarth, and Priscilla Hannah Gurney, who had an evening meeting there, which to me was rather a laborious one ; partly owing perhaps to a bad sick head-ach, which I had to struggle with. Martha Howarth was led to describe the true foundation, and the advantage of building on it, and how unhappily some had missed it for want of digging deep enough,

and so had built on the sand, which could not stand the day of trial.

25. A beautiful morning. Rose early, yet found the tempter near, spreading in my view pleasant pictures never likely to be realized. May they be stained in my view, and every roving thought and imagination bounded by the Lord's pure fear. Oh, this daily warfare! I desire not to shrink from it, but to be renewedly strengthened to maintain the combat.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1792.

1. Went to Croydon and attended the quarterly meeting. According to my feelings it was a season of renewed favour, believing the crook of divine love was still held out to a backsliding people. O, that they might be wise enough to close in with such repeated gracious invitations, while the day of mercy is lengthened out.

8. A humbling season at meeting; not only under a renewed sense of my manifold weaknesses, but my former sins being set in order as it were before me. I saw afresh that where ill habits had taken deep root, it must be a work of time entirely to extirpate them; yet a little encouraged with the belief that this work was gradually going on. O, may the Lord (who is alone able) be pleased to perfect it to his own praise, whatever sufferings I undergo in order

for its completion. My mind sweetly tendered in the evening on hearing that some of our young folks, who are setting out in life, are taking up the cross, not only in their appearance, but also in the furniture of their houses, coming back to primitive simplicity.

10. Poor and weak, yet have believed at this time, that it is good for us to be thus stripped and abased, that no flesh may glory in the presence of the Lord, seeing our sufficiency is alone of Him, who is worthy of all praise and adoration.

12. This day I think not unprofitably spent, and my faith a little animated to press forward, though nothing to boast of.

18. Too easily put by retiring, yet endeavoured to step safely along, though in much weakness.

28. A busy day, my mind too much encumbered, and pettish with a dear child who was somewhat untoward; yet a little sweetened this evening under the precious influence of Truth. How do I love to hear as it were the voice of the Lord in the cool of the day; nor do I wish, like Adam, to hide myself from his pure eye, desiring to bring my deeds to the light; and to feel judgment pass over the transgressing nature: for, Oh, he is rich in mercy!

EIGHTH MONTH, 1792.

13. Have given way too much to a roving disposition to-day, which I feel wrong, and Oh,

how have I desired, in this my retirement, to be enabled to mount a little upward above this low and lowering world ; to shake myself from the dust of the earth, and feel my mind renewedly strengthened to press forward, laying aside every weight and burthen ! This surely is a great attainment, yet it is what my poor soul, amidst all its weaknesses and imperfections often aspireth after.

14. I trust a well spent day.

15. Have renewedly experienced the truth of that assertion, " A man's foes shall be they of his own house ;" having been much tried to-day with a wrong disposition of mind, which, I fear, I too much yielded to in the first place ; but feeling the gentle reproofs of my good guide, who enabled me to turn to him, through his gracious assistance, they were measureably put to flight.

26. Our preparative meeting, previous to the quarterly meeting. When I sat down I felt so poor and destitute of divine good, that the enemy would have persuaded me it was in vain to press after it ; but, as he was a liar from the beginning so I found him in this instance ; for after some conflict with a lukewarm spirit, I was enabled to draw near to the fountain of living waters, and was sweetly refreshed.

NINTH MONTH, 1792.

4. A painful feverish night. Rose weak and

Tanguid; yet after a while got better: renewed cause of thankfulness! O, that I may be made enough so, for even this disposition is not at our command, but as we receive it from God who is the giver of every good and perfect gift.

5. Some unpleasant circumstances; and my mind not so comfortable as at many times, having let in some doubts; yet I trust desirous of being directed aright even in what may appear trifling things.

6. Still embarrassed; yet have concluded to do what appears safest, though contrary to my inclination.

7. My mind seems relieved by doing what I believed right, yet found it hard work this morning at meeting to get at the spring, but was at length favoured with a little refreshment, which my soul panted after.

10. Rose with fresh desires after heaven and heavenly treasure; and that I might be preserved from every appearance of evil. In the afternoon, when I sat down to work, I felt my spirit unexpectedly contrited before the Lord; thankful for this favour, I laid it aside, and sat in much tenderness before him a considerable time, for sweet indeed is his love. O, that I was a more worthy partaker.

12. Have been led this morning to admire with humble thankfulness, the continued kindness and long suffering of a gracious God towards one so unworthy, and that in all my wanderings, he

should be pleased to watch over me with a father's love, and bring me gently back again into his fold. How can I do less than [thus] commemorate his goodness, who hath dealt so bountifully with me, a poor worm !

16. Made myself work to-day by suffering my mind to go after trifling things, before I went to meeting, so that I was obliged to labour to get clear of them ; yet, after awhile was favoured far beyond my deserts, even with the liftings up of the light of the Lord's countenance upon me. O my soul, how vast is the debt thou owest ! mayest thou walk in deep humility and fear before him.

20. Nothing particular has occurred these last few days ; a portion of each has been spent in retirement, and, I may with gratitude acknowledge, that in these solitary sittings, I have felt the overshadowing of the Divine wing, to my great refreshment and encouragement ; yet I also retain a humbling sense of my manifold weaknesses.

30. After some conflict with a wandering disposition, both in the morning and afternoon meetings was favoured to partake of the hidden manna which can alone nourish the soul up to eternal life ; and was led a little to behold the beauty and excellency of that state of innocence in which our first parents were created, and to aspire after it.

TENTH MONTH, 1792.

1. My mind disquieted and uncomfortable at meeting with a disappointment, for want of that true resignation with which we ought to meet every event.

2. More comfortable, yet do not feel that entire resignation of my will to the Lord's will which I have laboured after, having no doubt but every dispensation is ordered in unerring wisdom; yet nature is sometimes ready to start aside. O, that mine may be brought into true subjection, is the sincere prayer of my heart.

3. Am comforted to feel my mind restored to its wonted tranquillity. Being in company in the evening, gave way too much to the vivacity of my disposition, so that it bordered on levity, for which I felt condemnation.

4. As soon as I awoke this morning the recollection of last evening presented itself painfully, so that I was humbled under a sense of my weakness before the Lord, who I believe accepted my penitence and restored peace to my soul. How unmerited this favour!

5. Our dear friends Martha Howarth and Priscilla Hannah Gurney came to pay us a religious visit; my heart rejoiced to see them; they attended our week-day meeting, which was also our monthly meeting; the former had a very close time in testimony, apprehending the feelings given

her that there was unfaithfulness amongst us ; and was led to speak of the parable of the sower, and the different kinds of ground the good seed was sown in, and the various things which prevented its growth, &c.

7. The above-mentioned friends attended our meeting, Martha Howarth again led in a close manner to expostulate with some amongst us, who she believed were not grieved for the afflictions of Joseph, but were settled down in a state of carnal security. My mind was much humbled under the consideration that the Lord should in great condescension thus permit his chosen servants to plead with the gainsayers.

24. My soul hath adopted the language of one formerly ; " If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth ; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy."

31. The morning taken up with family affairs and attending my * scholars, and the afternoon in visiting, so that I could find no time for retirement, which I regret, having doubtless suffered loss.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1792.

4. I felt the renewed extension of the heavenly Father's love soon after I sat down in meeting this

* She for some years kept a school for about eight or ten poor children.

morning, and Oh, with what joy did I meet the beloved of souls ! How vast is the debt I owe him ! May I manifest my gratitude by a more steady obedience and unreserved dedication of heart. I desire to do so ; but I fear my own instability.

6. My time so fully taken up that there seemed no time for retiring these two days ; yet I trust the general disposition of my heart hath been right. Received an instructive lesson last evening by the departure of one (of whom I had entertained a far different opinion) from the simplicity which once adorned her. My heart was sorely pained on her account, and with tears I besought the Lord on my own, lest I should also fall by the way, and I felt a willingness to be stripped of every earthly delight rather than forfeit this best of blessings, his favour, which alone can truly enrich.

14. A fresh scene of trial and affliction opened in the alarming illness of my dear sister * Lettice ; and Oh, the prayer of my heart hath been that it may be brought into a perfect resignation to every dispensation of unerring wisdom ; for "shall not the Judge of the whole earth do "right."

18. A humbling time at meeting this morning, feeling afresh my inability to take one step aright, without divine assistance ; yet my faith and strength a little renewed in the all-sufficiency of

* Wife of Jeremiah Waring, Alton, Hants.

that arm of power which had hitherto preserved me.

22. My soul bowed under a sense of the Lord's goodness in permitting me still to approach his holy footstool, amidst my manifold infirmities.

26. Much affected this morning by my beloved father's finding something of a paralytic affection, looking on it as a gentle warning. O, that I may be truly resigned, and patiently submit to the Lord's will, without a repining thought.

27. Abundant cause of thankfulness to-day; my dear father better, and a more favourable account from Alton. May my gratitude bear some proportion thereto.

30. Our week-day meeting. A baptizing season. Methought my lamp was afresh trimmed, and replenished with heavenly oil.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1792.

1. A busy day; yet found time to visit the sick, and administer a little help. I am thankful that ability was given.

6. Have been led to look back a little and recount the Lord's mercies, and my heart hath overflowed with gratitude for all his blessings, both spiritual and temporal.

7. Went to our monthly meeting, which

proved an instructive season, notwithstanding I had something to war with, having too much given way to a wrong disposition. O, that I may sufficiently profit thereby.

11. My strength a little renewed this evening in my solitary sitting in my chamber. Precious to me are these seasons: yea more than the increase of corn, wine, or oil.

16. An instructive season at meeting: was desirous of sitting in poverty and dryness, rather than offer any thing polluted. O, to be preserved clean-handed.

18. A well spent morning. In the afternoon did something with a good intent, yet am not quite satisfied in my mind that it was right, which brought heaviness and a cloud.

19. More comfortable, yet the cloud not totally removed. O, that every motive as well as action may be brought to the measuring line.

21. A humbling season at meeting, and trust I felt something of the healing waters. O, to be washed clean, that no impurity might remain. This was the prayer of my heart.

29. These two days have passed quietly away, and I trust, have been spent profitably, yet in my retirement uncommonly poor and stripped; under which I felt in a good degree resigned. An affecting account of the increasing indisposition of my dear sister Lettice.

FIRST MONTH, 1793.

r. Another year begun, and I doubt but small advance in the heavenly race; yet it is cause of humble thankfulness, amidst my manifold weaknesses as a creature, that I am still preserved alive in the truth. Have retired twice to-day to feel after that blessing which alone can enrich the soul, but felt uncommonly stripped and poor; so that a sigh and a tear were all I could offer: yet preserved in a good degree of quietude.

4. Oh, my self-love! I have had cause to mourn on this account to-day. How many actions, which appear specious in the sight of men, spring from this corrupt root! Great are the advantages of a daily examination. What numberless foibles have I discovered in myself since I have been in the practice of it, which before passed unobserved.

9. Paid a visit to a relation, who shewed me much kindness; but, alas! my heart was pained at beholding the deviation from the simplicity of truth, and what a snare there is in riches: how few can withstand them, or are watchful enough to prevent their undue influence.

13. Went to Longford meeting, where, after waiting at Wisdom's gate, my soul was sweetly refreshed with the fresh flowings of Shiloh's streams: yet, poor unstable creature as I am! got

off my watch, and in a great measure lost the sweet savour thereof.

19. My time fully occupied in attending my dear sister: and, though I have had no suitable time for retirement, yet have frequently felt the tendering influence of truth on my mind while thus engaged; which leads me to believe that the Lord prefers mercy to sacrifice.

24. These several days taken up (as heretofore) in a close attention to my dear sister; yet a fresh temptation hath presented, to which my mind has too much yielded at times, it being pleasant to look at; but at others, by retiring inward I have been favoured with ability to get from under it; and the prayer of my heart has been, that I might feel every desire limited, and ask nothing but what the Lord saw meet in his infinite wisdom to dispense. O, that I could rest here, humbly thankful for the many blessings I enjoy beyond thousands, and how unworthy thereof I cannot but acknowledge with confusion of face.

SECOND MONTH, 1793.

2. Came home, on hearing my dear father was confined with the gout: found him better than I expected, which calls aloud for gratitude.

9. Another week passed away, yet I hope not spent in vain. My time has been pretty fully occupied in attending my dear father and my

scholars, visiting the sick, and in family affairs : yet amidst these various occupations have not lost sight of that better part which Mary chose ; having my mind, at seasons, sweetly attracted to feel after that living spring, which can alone furnish with ability for every good word and work.

14. Felt the pure influence of truth on my mind this morning as soon as I awoke, for which I felt thankful, and was desirous of retaining this precious savour through the day ; but the many encumbering things have too much prevailed, so that I feel poor and dry, yet quiet, and I hope humble : much need have I to be so.

21. Came to retire with a heart panting after the refreshing stream of Shiloh ; but, alas ! dryness and poverty is my portion. I desire to be humble and patient under this dispensation, and learn what it is to want as well as to abound.

22. After struggling awhile this morning at meeting, had to set up my Ebenezer, and say, " hitherto hath the Lord helped me," Blessed be his worthy name for ever.

26. Amidst all my weaknesses fresh aspirations after purity and perfect holiness arose in my retirement to-day, and I was favoured with a little access to the fountain of living waters.

THIRD MONTH, 1793.

3. A precious season at meeting this morning.

May this renewed favour excite to more vigilance and circumspection, for surely the Lord looketh for fruit proportionable to labour bestowed.

9. A day I think profitably spent as to action, and I trust my mind pretty much preserved from hurtful things; yet am truly desirous that every motive may be brought under the purifying operations of truth.

14. Answered my dear father impatiently. Surely I, who have so many weaknesses of my own, ought to bear with patience those of an aged parent.

16. Too unguarded in my conversation, speaking censoriously of an absent person, not enough keeping in view the golden rule of doing as I would be done by. O, for more watchfulness that I might escape condemnation, yet am thankful to feel the reprover near. May he never leave or forsake me.

21. Hastened to Alton to see my dear sister Lettice; found her rather better again, but in the evening she altered for the worse, and a trying night succeeded; she was for a considerable time speechless and convulsed; but after awhile, reviving, called us separately to her, and took an affecting farewell; saying as she pressed us with fervour to her bosom, it was like rending her asunder, and that it seemed, from the nearness she felt for us, "as though she could drink in our spirits." She gave much advice to the servants, respecting their care of the dear children, begging

them not to leave them to strangers; adding "Oh how they cling around my heart!"

22. A most trying day: my beloved sister's pain excruciating; but getting easier towards evening we ventured to go to bed, as she requested it.

24. Called up between three and four o'clock this morning, my dear sister altering for the worse, and as we apprehended dying: yet the all-wise Disposer of events, who cannot err, though to us his ways are unsearchable and past finding out, did not see meet to finish the work: she again revived a little, and took nourishing things. In the evening sitting in silence round her bed, our minds were made sensible of the overshadowing wing of heavenly love, when a friend was engaged in supplication by the bed-side: soon after this, the dear suffering creature was deeply tried with a severe conflict of spirit, fearing the hope she had entertained was not well grounded, which was very exercising to our minds, when these words [alluding to Isaiah liv. 8.] sprang livingly in my mind, and also in my brothers, "for a moment I hid my face from thee, but with everlasting kindness will I return unto thee," which was a relief to us, although she was permitted to struggle with her fears for some time: but after awhile broke out thus 'O, praise the Lord, I shall now soon have to rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory. Oh, the peace that I feel, it passes all understanding! O, sing praises, sing praises:

' To feel this rock, at such a time, how comfortable, &c.'

25. Sister Lettice lay pretty quiet most of the day; in the afternoon asking her to have a little wine, she said, ' No, my dear sister, no more wine, till I drink the new wine.' Was nearly cold for several hours, yet again revived.

26. A dull quarterly meeting-day, several afflictive events rendering it unusually small; and all of us engaged in the solemn employment of watching round the dying bed of my beloved sister, who could not clearly articulate, yet made us sensible of her wants, and frequently prayed to be released; which awful event took place about five o'clock in the evening, leaving on our minds no doubt of her glorious change from pain and sorrow to everlasting joy and rejoicing: which administered to us, who had seen her inexpressible sufferings, rather cause of humble thankfulness than excessive mourning; though we painfully felt the separation.

29. The remains of my beloved sister interred; and cannot but acknowledge it a favour that we had the company of some valuable friends on this solemn occasion, particularly dear Job Scott, whose company was truly acceptable.

FOURTH MONTH, 1793.

I. Our quarterly meeting (at Guildford).

Dear Job Scott bestowed much labour. May the fruits appear after many days. I was enabled to get through the business of the meeting as clerk, to my humble admiration.

4. I trust, amidst my manifold weaknesses as a creature, I still love the appearance of our blessed Redeemer, however small and lowly; either as a reprover or comforter. May I ever cherish it as the best of blessings.

10. A fatiguing day; yet think, in the evening, I might have found time for retirement, if I had not been lukewarm. Content not thyself, O my soul, with making this remark, but be willing to abide under condemnation.

11. What an inestimable favour that there is, to this day, a Bethesda, for the Lord's children to repair to and wash; that they may feel their health renewed as from day to day!

14. Seasons of conflict between nature and grace, both in the morning and afternoon meetings; yet trust I may add, with thankfulness, that the latter prevailed in some degree. Oh, how was my poor mind tossed from wave to wave!

16. Too much outward in my mind; and dwelling on things unprofitable; but, retiring awhile in the evening, have endeavoured, with divine assistance, to shake myself a little from earthly desires, and to cast my whole care on Him who hath hitherto blessed me; indeed far beyond my deserts. Oh, the sweet peace which I feel when enabled to repose all my cares on him!

every anxious thought subside. O, that I could dwell in this quiet habitation: but alas, how great is my instability!

23. How beautiful does the outward creation appear! What resemblance does my soul bear to it? I trust there is a little greenness, which is a sign of life at the root; though I doubt but little fruit. O, that increasing faithfulness may appear.

24. Felt a wrong disposition rising this evening, but was enabled to suppress it: envy at hearing the praise of another, at which I ought to rejoice; and I hope I now do; at least, I desire to do it.

30. Another busy morning, and the afternoon spent in visiting some relations; and though far from unprofitable company, yet I always find visiting about dissipates the mind.

FIFTH MONTH, 1793.

1. Was at the week-day meeting [at Alton] this morning, in which I trust the watch was in a good degree maintained; yet think I scarcely ever remember a more exercising time; a sigh and a tear seemed all I could offer.

3. Came home. My poor thirsty soul abundantly replenished this morning, in our week-day meeting, with celestial rain. It is, I trust, with a degree of humble gratitude, that I make this remark. May I ever be enabled to number the

blessings which I am favoured with, and may it be my daily concern to improve them.

8. Still struggling with my frailties. What an unspeakable favour that the Lord should still condescend to aid me with his Spirit, in limiting the desires and thoughts of my vain heart. O, that it were wholly conformable to his divine will, and my will wholly slain. Then "instead of the thorn would come up the fir-tree, and instead of the brier would come up the myrtle-tree, &c." Blessed exchange!

10. A fresh scene of trial and affliction opened on us to-day, under which I was favoured to feel a degree of humble resignation.

15. My poor weak mind disquieted with some cross occurrences this morning, for want of keeping on the watch: never, sure, had I more need of it than at this juncture, when adverse winds blow from different quarters. O, to keep in the patience.

25. Since the last remark, have been to London to attend the yearly meeting, which I esteem a great favour: and though my poor mind has at times been greatly depressed on account of a very afflictive event, and prevented from much enjoyment in company, even of valuable friends, whom I loved and esteemed, yet I have with sincere gratitude to acknowledge that the staff hath evidently accompanied the rod; and some seasons of sweet refreshment been mercifully vouchsafed. May renewed vigilance and circumspection denote the deep sense I retain of such unmerited favours.

SIXTH MONTH, 1793.

3. Have been favoured, in my solitary sitting this evening, to see some of the various stratagems of an unwearied enemy to destroy and lay waste the good seed of the kingdom. How cunning, how subtile is he, transforming himself at times into an angel of light! O, may I dwell near that divine Power, who alone can preserve from this devourer.

5. Have been led this evening to look back a little, and number some of the many blessings received. A humbling yet profitable employ; as it tends to reduce self, and strip it of every fancied excellence.

8. Took a walk. Was too light and airy in my conversation, for which I quickly felt gently corrected, which humbled me; and when I returned, sought retirement; when I was enabled to approach Him whom I believe I had offended; and believe my penitence and tears were accepted.

14. Indisposed. Staid from meeting; but did not let the time pass unimproved: during my silent sitting before the Lord, the remembrance of my dear departed sister Lettice was unexpectedly brought to my mind, with so much sweetness and brokenness, that it seemed as if our spirits were afresh united. The impression left is pleasant.

20. Sat up last night with a sick friend;

which was an instructive season to me. O, my soul, mayst thou sufficiently improve by these lessons; line upon line, &c. Am thankful in believing that my faith and confidence in the Lord does increase.

21. A sweet refreshing time at our week-day meeting, though silent. Oh, what an unspeakable favour to feel an evidence at times that we are not following cunningly devised fables, but the eternal living substance!

30. Went to our quarterly meeting at Wandsworth; thought the morning meeting rather dull; the evening and next morning favoured seasons: and though dear Samuel Emlen and Richard Baker were led in close searching testimonies, yet they seemed fully to believe that the arm of divine compassion and regard was afresh extended to a backsliding generation. Marvellous love and condescension! O, that it might prevail on some, who I believe have strayed far from the true sheep-fold, to return while the day of mercy lasts.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1793.

3. Have felt the attacks of an unwearied enemy to draw my mind from its true centre, and to lay waste every good resolution; insinuating that a state of perfection is unattainable: but was he not found a liar from the beginning? So doth he still remain.

9. Have felt the attractive influence of true divers times to-day; and once, in particular, suppressing a wrong disposition, and enabling to flee to that name which is a strong tower. O, that I could dwell ever there; then would nothing be suffered to annoy. But, alas, I have often to mourn my instability!

23. Fresh trials of patience, under which was preserved in a good degree of quiet; which I esteem a favour: and have also had, this evening renewedly, to believe that it was nothing short of divine regard which first drew my mind to these frequent retirements; and am well convinced that it hath been a means of preservation.

29. Sat up last night with a sick child. My mind, both then, and to-day, was too much inclined to dwell on a subject which I think, if too much indulged, may be hurtful to me; yet have frequently breathed to the Lord for preservation within the limiting power of Truth.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1793.

2. Went to our monthly meeting: which proved (notwithstanding some unwatchfulness) a baptizing season. Among other things, dear uncle Kidd was led to mention, in the course of his testimony, that passage in scripture, "And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin." How did it

prostrate my soul before the Lord, with fervent desires that he would indeed thoroughly purge my heart of every defiling thing! Often am I made sensible of its impurity.

13. Not idly spent, as to action; but my mind too much outward, and too easily yielding to anxious thoughts. How much work does unwatchfulness make! Humbled this evening with the retrospection of my various infirmities as a creature; and how often they get the ascendancy over my good resolutions.

18. A precious watering season this morning at meeting. What can I render unto the Lord for all his benefits? Staid at home from meeting in the afternoon from necessity, not choice.

25. The rest of last week confined by illness; yet was gently dealt with; and so far recovered as to get down stairs to-day;—renewed cause of humble thankfulness. Am fearful I have not yet learned sufficient meekness and patience under suffering. O, for an increase of it and every other virtue. What a poor creature am I when left to myself, and from under the seasoning virtue and efficacy of truth, which can alone preserve from the snares of death.

30. These last few days have been much taken up in preparing and coming to Bristol; yet my mind has, at times, been enabled to retire to the true centre, where I have felt quiet.

NINTH MONTH, 1793.

11. Spent too much time to-day in unprofitable reading. Was made renewedly desirous this evening, in my little solitary sitting, of having my will made subservient in all things to the divine will. Oh! this is a great attainment; but am thankful at times to feel my soul pressing after it as the first of blessings.

14. Met with a circumstance which tried my poor weak mind; yet laboured after a state of true resignation and quiet, which was in some degree attained to.

15. I trust truly abased in my sittings at meeting this day, under a renewed humbling sense of my weaknesses; yet, in the evening meeting, my poor vessel seemed for a season the sport of wind and waves; but was at length favoured with a calm, which led me to believe that the good pilot was still near in order to preserve from wreck.

26. The greater part of this day spent in company; so that I was glad when the evening came to go to meeting, where my thirsty panting soul was replenished with celestial rain.

29. Rather poorly in the morning: felt relieved after I got to meeting, which I hope I was truly thankful for; as well as for renewed assistance to approach the alone Physician of value.

TENTH MONTH, 1793.

12. Reached London after a fatiguing journey all night; yet favoured to get along without accident: and the fore-part of the journey rendered pleasant, by my mind being profitably engaged in a retrospection of the Lord's gracious dealings with me; and in a renewed belief that he was still caring for me, and watching over me for good.

24. Was at Devonshire-house meeting; which, though nearly silent, was an instructive season to my poor soul. I was made thankful in believing that my will was in some degree conforming to the divine will. O, that I was wholly conformed. What encouragement have I to trust in the Lord, who is dealing thus graciously with me!

25. Was afresh enamoured with the beauty of holiness, in our little silent gathering to-day; so that I thought it was good to be there.

31. These last few days have afforded but little time for religious retirement; but though I fear some part of them has not been spent so profitably as it might have been; yet at times I have found my mind secretly attracted by divine love to its proper centre; and can thankfully acknowledge, I have been preserved in a good degree of quiet dependance on Him, who can alone preserve from the various snares which hourly await us; and who best knows how to dispense suitably to his

dependant creatures. He is indeed an inexhaustible fountain; and in his hand are the hidden treasures of wisdom.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1793.

7. This last week confined by illness; which I fear I did not bear with that full resignation and meekness of spirit which I should have done; though it was often the concern of my mind to press after it, even in the silent watches of the night. During this time of my confinement I met with a trial which none knew of but the Lord, whose compassionate eye is over all his works (yea, the very meanest of them, or else I had perished long ago). He sustained my poor feeble soul and enabled me in some degree to adopt the language of "Thy will be done." Gracious condescension! of myself I was wholly unequal to this attainment. It is thou alone, O Lord, who canst set bounds to the ocean that it cannot pass; and say 'hitherto thou shalt come and no further, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed.' Hadst thou not graciously superintended the vessel, how often would it have been wrecked.

9. Got out again to our week-day meeting; in which my poor mind was sweetly replenished with celestial rain. At the close of it, a committee was held to nominate women overseers, at which I was proposed as one. Oh! it brought a-

great weight over me; and I ventured to object to it, but do not know whether my objection will be accepted. If I am chosen, I desire, with much sincerity, that I may be enabled to set a double watch over my conduct, while watching over others; that I may so walk as to preserve my garments free from spot or any such thing.

15. Went to Staines to see my dear relations there, an opportunity offering; yet it being our week-day meeting, was not quite easy about it: but feeling that my mind was sweetly centered and contrited on my return, I hope I do not presume too far in believing that I did not offend Him, whom I desire to love above all.

21. A refreshing time this afternoon in my chamber; in which I was led to view the excellency of truth and its peaceable fruits.

24. Gave way to-day to anger, about a trifle in itself; as I have several times of late; yet was thankful to feel myself corrected. O, for more sweetness of disposition, and strength of mind to bear the cross occurrences of life. This I often labour after; and sometimes, when I keep on the watch, am enabled to bear trials of patience without quitting my quiet habitation: would I could always dwell there!

26. Much affected with the sorrowful tidings that Job Scott had taken the small-pox in Ireland; and it is supposed that he is by this time removed. He was a valiant in Israel; one whose bow abode in strength. I cannot but mourn the church's loss,

and his dear children's, though unknown to me; yet we must not call in question the dispensations of Providence, though, to us finite creatures, they may be past finding out.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1793.

6. Oh, the crucifying power of Jesus, how hard to flesh and blood! But remember, O, my soul, that is the part which can never inherit the kingdom. Yet I can truly say, with a servant of the Lord formerly (to wit, Mary Peisley), that so frequent and necessary are the operations of the sword of the Spirit, to separate betwixt the precious and the vile, that at times it makes me weary of this embodied state. The Lord alone knows my secret probations; no mortal is acquainted therewith: and it is he alone that can sustain through every conflict and give victory. Praised be his name! a degree of living faith at this time arises, that as I keep my eye single to him, he will be near, and preserve me from the fury of the devourer.

10. My mind sweetly refreshed, and animated to press forward, by reading an account of dear Job Scott's triumphant exit.

15. A precious season at meeting this morning. Was led to believe that the work of the new creation was carrying on, even new heavens and new earth; and that the old were passing away.

the 6, that this glorious work may be perfected to the
 tion praise of Him who alone is able to perform it.

the 20. Staid from meeting to-day to nurse my
 little niece, who lies ill with the scarlet fever and
 sore throat: and though I am very apt to take
 disorders of this kind, yet feel easy and quiet about
 it; having, I hope, my trust in the Lord; who
 can sustain through every dispensation which he
 is pleased to allot to the workmanship of his hands.
 Can I doubt Him who hath so abundantly blessed
 and sustained to this very hour? Oh, no! I feel
 my confidence renewed; for which I bless his
 holy name.

FIRST MONTH, 1794.

3. Attended our monthly meeting to-day.
 Though held in silence, the meeting for worship
 was, to my poor thirsty soul, a season of conso-
 1 lation and refreshment: a favour I esteemed my-
 self unworthy of. A committee from the quar-
 terly meeting attended this meeting. The ap-
 pointment of overseers took place. O, that the
 importance of such an appointment may dwell
 weightily on my mind.

5. Though the good Shepherd of Israel was
 near to-day, both in our morning and afternoon
 meetings, yet I found the enemy also present,
 endeavouring to draw my mind from its proper
 centre, *spreading alluring pictures to catch its*

attention; and he too much prevailed; under a sense of which I was humbled, and prayed that I might be enabled to maintain the warfare.

11. A day for the greater part spent profitably; yet was desirous, in the evening, that I might attribute nothing to the creature; for if I was enabled to do any thing aright, the sufficiency was of God. O, my soul, be willing to be stripped of every filthy rag of thy own righteousness, that thou mayest be like the king's daughter, "all glorious within."

13. Our quarterly meeting at Kingston; Samuel Emlen and James Graham appeared in testimony; the latter inviting the backsliders to return to their first love. I was humbled under a sense of the continued kindness of a long-suffering God, in thus sending his faithful servants amongst us. In the meeting for discipline an appointment of women friends took place, to join a committee of men friends to visit the monthly meetings; when, in compliance with my friends wishes, and from a fear of discouraging others, I was prevailed with to set down my name; yet, alas! I feel very unequal to such an undertaking; and expect, if I do go, to go as a fool. O, that I may be preserved in simplicity; and singleness of heart; that self may be laid low; that so I may move in the fear of the Lord.

20. Took leave of my dear friends and returned homewards: found my dear parents and sister well; and some relations who had been

visited with sickness, on the recovery; so that I have renewed cause of thankfulness: yea! what hour of my life does not afford it?

25. A time of sweet solace in my chamber; so that my soul had to acknowledge, Good is the Lord, and worthy to be praised; and that by the whole house of Israel.

28. Went to the week-day meeting at Guildford. Here was painfully brought to my remembrance my having spoken enviously of a person; and with confusion of face was I humbled before the Lord, beseeching forgiveness, and that he would be pleased to enable me to walk more perfectly before him in future. O, may my sins ever go before-hand to judgment. Being at this time made willing to come under his purifying hand, I was favoured with the return of sweet peace.

31. The parable of the publican and pharisee was brought to my remembrance this morning at meeting; and the prayer of my heart was, that the pharisaical disposition might never be entertained by me: poor creature as I am, much more need have I to exclaim with the publican, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

SECOND MONTH, 1794.

2. Felt the overshadowing of heavenly love,

D

soon after I sat down in meeting this morning yet, through unwatchfulness, suffered my mind to be scattered; recovered in some degree my strength before the meeting concluded, but not wholly. Read this afternoon an excellent little book written by George Keith. What need have they, who think they stand, to take heed lest they fall; since one who made so good a beginning, and even suffered imprisonment for the testimony, did grievously fall.

3. Much of my time devoted to the service of others.

5. A quiet tranquil day, both to body and mind.

10. Confined with a sore throat and fever these several days past: had the disorder very favourably; for which have been humbly thankful: yet have been uncommonly tried with poverty of spirit; yea, I sought him whom my soul loveth; I sought him on my bed, but found him not.

12. Pretty much spent in profitable reading: fresh desires arose after a more perfect establishment on the Rock of ages, against which neither death, hell, nor the grave shall ever prevail.

20. Mostly devoted to the poor and sick; so that I hope it has been well spent: yet am fully sensible there is nothing due to the creature.

23. Favoured with the fresh descendings of heavenly rain at meeting this morning. O my soul, let not the recording of the Lord's mercies satisfy

thee, but let it incite thee to a more earnest pursuit after heavenly treasure: that so increasing faithfulness may appear.

26. So much taken up with visiting, and divers other engagements, that I could find scarcely any time for retirement. How tasteless and insipid is every enjoyment, that is not crowned with thy presence, O Lord!—I am thankful to feel it so.

THIRD MONTH, 1794.

1. Wrote a letter of advice to a friend; in doing which I have discharged an apprehended duty: the rest of the day much taken up in serving others.

2. On my first sitting down at meeting, got musing on a subject, which, though a profitable one, was beside the proper business: yet no sooner did I endeavour to dismiss it, and get on my watch, than I met with Him whom my soul loveth, graciously waiting to bless the workmanship of his hand. May he be pleased to instruct me how to make suitable returns.

3. Doubts and fears have been the companions of my mind to-day, about sending the letter which I had written; so concluded to wait, and try it longer; have also been afraid of spreading too much into branches, and not dwelling enough in the root. O, may this jealousy increase.

Under the pressure of these feelings I have poured out my soul before the Lord, beseeching him to preserve me on the right hand and on the left.

8. Ventured with fear to send the letter I had written ; so must leave the event.

23. Much discouraged at the prospect of the approaching visit to the monthly meetings ; and the more so as my companion Sarah Birkbeck is likely to be prevented, by illness, from going with me. This is no small trial of my faith. O, that it were as a grain of mustard seed, pure and unmixed ; then doubtless it would lessen, if not remove, this mountain. Had a visit from a kind sympathizing friend : and dear Elizabeth Moline, seeing my extreme weakness, voluntarily offered to accompany me. Oh, what a poor creature am I, how unworthy such unmerited favour ! Awoke in the night, and felt my mind sweetly bounded by the fear of the Lord ; yet methought something like a gentle reproof for giving way so much to my fears.

26. Went to Dorking to join the committee. I hope our going was not altogether in vain.

30. A refreshing season at meeting this morning, though not unattended with labour : the afternoon was the preparative meeting. Some weighty counsel dropt ; yet I thought the queries answered too fully. In the evening spoke detractingly of an absent person ; to my shame I mention it. O my soul, when wilt thou learn wisdom ?

31. Low, and I trust humble, under a sense of my failing yesterday; with renewed desires after more stability.

FOURTH MONTH, 1794.

11. A renewal of strength at our silent week-day meeting. How do I love these seasons!

15. Company, &c. again to-day: something is certainly due to our friends; yet I should gladly have retired awhile to feel after that meat which the world knows not of.

16. Renewed desires after divine preservation; yet but little time for religious retirement. Am thankful to feel, when this is sometimes the case, the limiting power of truth near me; preserving me in a watchful frame of mind.

17. It was opened to my understanding, in my silent sitting, how offensive a lukewarm state is in the sight of God; and the prayer of my heart was, that I might be preserved from it; and I was led a little to number my blessings.

18. Renewed encouragement to follow the Lord in the way of his leadings, at our week-day meeting. What a loss do those sustain who miss these opportunities!

20. Beseet with vain thoughts, to which I too much yielded; so that, when I went to meeting, I thought myself unworthy to approach Perfect Purity: yet such was his gracious condescension,

that he stretched forth his sceptre, and drew me near to him; and blessed me with his life-giving presence. Unmerited mercy!

24. Was truly desirous that the work (which I believe the Lord hath graciously begun in my heart) might not be marred on the wheel; but there is surely no safety but in unceasing watchfulness.

FIFTH MONTH, 1794.

3. This morning rose early; and spent some hours in my chamber, profitably and pleasantly, in reading, writing, and communing with my own heart: favoured with the fresh descendings of heavenly rain. Precious privilege, and delightful employment! O, that the votaries of pleasure could but taste these refined and superior enjoyments; surely they would be willing to part with their perishable and sin-pleasing gratifications for this pearl of great price.

14. Sat up part of last night with my beloved parent; and my feelings much tried with an apprehension of his disorder settling in childishness. I have endeavoured to labour after an entire resignation to the divine will, under this trying allotment; and though I cannot say I have attained to it perfectly, yet methinks I feel the sustaining arm of divine power underneath, as an anchor to my wearied soul. May I be thankful enough.

15. My dear father something better to-day, having in a great measure recovered the use of his faculties. O, may I be thankful enough; but it is the Lord alone who can enable me so to be.

16. My dear father gradually recovering; so ventured to meeting to-day, where my poor exhausted mind was led as into fresh and green pastures. What can I render unto the Lord for all his blessings?

26. A sweet contriving season in my chamber.

30. Though I travelled for awhile as in a wilderness; yet at length was favoured with the springing up of the well of life, to my great refreshment this morning at meeting.

SIXTH MONTH, 1794.

3. Felt sweetly peaceful when I awoke this morning; methought the good Shepherd was near; notwithstanding which favour was too unguarded in my conversation in the evening: to my shame I record it.

5. Went to Guildford to meet Phebe Blakes and Elizabeth Copeland, two friends travelling in the work of the ministry: was made renewedly sensible of my own insufficiency for every good work.

6. The above mentioned friends at our monthly meeting to-day: Phebe Blakes led in a close line; yet believe was much favoured: as for poor

me, to struggle with my own weakness, seemed all I could attain to : perhaps my mind was too outward ; yet endeavoured to set a double watch on that hand.

7. Have been desirous this morning of arising and shaking myself from the dust of the earth : for surely we are often clogged with it in our passing along. How does it retard our progress Zion-ward !

10. My close attention to my dear father these several days, with other family engagements, have left me but little leisure for retirement ; yet trust I have endeavoured to keep near my good guide, who hath graciously stayed my mind under some inquietudes which have occurred.

12. Our dear friends Mary Ridgway and Jane Watson came ; an unpleasant evening owing to an illumination : the people very noisy and riotous. Was favoured with much quietness and calmness on the occasion, though they broke many of our windows.

13. Our week-day meeting, which the afore-said friends attended, and a precious season it proved to my mind, and I hope to many others ; Mary and Jane appeared excellently, especially dear Mary, who laboured in much gospel love amongst us, inviting those who stood idle in the market-place, to enter into the vineyard of their own hearts and work.

15. Went to Guildford to meet our dear friends Mary Ridgway and Jane Watson, yet

felt rather uneasy in leaving our own meeting, which brought me into deep contrition. O, may I ever cherish this religious sensibility. The Lord was pleased in great condescension to visit me in my low estate, reviving my faith and hope in him. Dear Mary and Jane appeared excellently, though in a close line. Returned to our evening meeting, which also proved a season of refreshment.

18. I accompanied my dear father to Alton, where we again met with our dear friends Mary Ridgway and Jane Watson.

19. Was at a meeting appointed for the aforesaid friends: I sat down in much weakness and emptiness; yet being enabled to maintain the warfare, truth arose into dominion in my heart before silence was broken. Before we parted were favoured with a sweet cementing opportunity, in which dear Mary appeared in testimony, and heart-tendering supplication that the Lord would be pleased to be with them in the way they should go, and also with us that staid behind; and that we might be as epistles written in each others hearts.

21. Came home, had a pleasant safe journey; renewed cause of thankfulness.

25. My dear father not quite so well: my fears much alarmed; yet endeavoured to keep quiet, and near that Rock, which alone supports under every trial.

27. My beloved father feeling himself poorly,

'concluded' not to go to meeting; but afterwards went, and I with him: though late, it proved a season of divine refreshment; silent as to words.

30. Tried with the heat of the weather: yet several times in the day felt the attractive influence of divine love; so that I trust I am not forsaken. Encouraging belief!

SEVENTH MONTH, 1794.

1. Some trials of patience occurred; which I did not bear with that meekness I might have donè: O, for an increase of it as well as of every other virtue; surely I stand much in need of it, and it is often the engagement of my mind to press after it.

6. Set off at half past four o'clock for our quarterly meeting; got there but a little before meeting, had not time sufficient to refresh ourselves, and the weather extremely hot, so that it was no easy matter to get my mind sufficiently abstracted from outward things: yet was not wholly forsaken by the Shepherd of Israel, who is still watching over his little ones with a fatherly kindness; were favoured with the company of several valuable friends.

7. A precious season to-day to my poor soul: in which my strength and confidence in the Lord was renewed: notwithstanding the extreme heat

of the weather and smallness of the meeting-house. Dear Thomas Scattergood attended with many other valuable friends: I was enabled to get through the business to my humble admiration, yet trust the praise was rendered where it was alone due, well knowing from whence ability was received. Set out for home in the evening, which we did not reach till midnight.

13. Though I sat down much emptied of all good this morning at meeting, yet was the Lord graciously pleased as formerly to fill the empty vessel. The evening meeting poorly attended, and alas! but too few of the few, I fear, spiritually awake, so as to unite in labour for the arising of life.

15. Feeling the bubblings up of the well-spring of life this evening, I retired into the garden, where I was enabled to sing unto it: inestimable favour!

NINTH MONTH, 1794.

27. Have been confined eight weeks this day with a nervous fever; seven of which to my chamber, and mostly to my bed. The forepart of my illness was tried with poverty of spirit; my mind seeming to partake of the weakness of my body, so that I had scarcely strength to look towards the Lord's holy habitation. Yet I have reason to believe he was not unmindful of me.

for one night when I could not sleep from extreme restlessness, and feeling, as I apprehended, the disorder increasing on me, I felt more than common anxiety as to the event: desiring if the solemn change was near, I might have an evidence of it. In that trying season, it was graciously intimated that, however my sickness terminated, it would be well with me. I write not this boastingly; but then, as well as now, was deeply humbled under a sense of my own unworthiness of so great a favour. Yet it was an anchor to my soul, not only at that time, but during the rest of my illness, forbidding every anxious thought, and increasing my faith and confidence in His holy name, who is for ever worthy to be feared and praised. And now he hath been graciously pleased to restore in some degree my health and strength, which increases daily, may I be enabled, through his holy assistance, to live to his honour, who hath thus poured unnumbered blessings on my head: yet I am often led to feel, and at times to mourn, my lukewarmness and my proneness to enter too much into the spirit of this world; so that I see our blessed Lord's injunction, to watch and pray, was never more necessary than at the present time.

TENTH MONTH, 1794.

6. (Alton) Several days have again elapsed without any remark, partly owing to indisposition,

partly to want of suitable opportunity. I have still, at times, to lament my lukewarmness, at others have been favoured with the fresh descendings of heavenly rain, to the great refreshment of my weary mind. O, that increasing fruitfulness may appear. During this time my dear aunt Townsend departed this life, at Edinburgh, where she was on a religious visit.

13. This day my beloved father was seized with an apoplectic fit ; under which severe trial I was supported beyond expectation : and through divine favour, before night, he was so far recovered as to speak.

14. My dear father much better. Thomas Scattergood paid a religious visit to our family ; which was a strengthening opportunity to my poor weak mind ; what abundant cause of thankfulness does each day afford !

16. Have been humbled to-day under an apprehension that my gratitude for past favours has not been enough lively, and that I have been too much off my watch to-day.

31. Favoured with near access to the throne of grace this morning in our silent gathering at meeting ; and comforted in the renewed belief, that the glory is not yet departed from our Israel.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1794.

2. Sat down at meeting this morning in much

poverty and weakness ; yet He who was pleased formerly to fill the empty vessels, and remains to be the joy and song of many generations, also graciously condescended to make my cup to overflow.

7. A humbling season at meeting this morning ; yet think I hurried over the business too fast ; and divers friends calling in, my mind too much dissipated, so that on a review of this day I feel much dissatisfied with myself.

13. Though a sense of some weaknesses attended me in these last two days, yet think they have not been spent vainly or wholly unimproved.

16. I did not eat the bread of idleness this morning at meeting ; though have no doubt but my labour was increased by my unwatchfulness at first sitting down, suffering my mind to wander hither and thither ; so that I could not easily get it centred ; yet the Lord was not unmindful of me.

24. This day spent mostly in the service of the poor. I mention this not as any thing meritorious, being well convinced how imperfectly I perform my duties, both religious and social.

28. Favoured with the fresh descendings of celestial rain, in our little silent gathering this morning.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1794.

3. "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall;" never was this advice more necessary to me, than at this juncture; who but yesterday was comforted in the belief that through the assistance of divine grace, I was gaining some ascendancy over the adversary of our souls' happiness, not only in a more circumspect walking, but in watching over my mind, naturally prone to a roving disposition. But alas! am renewedly convinced, that the warfare is not completed.

5. Dwelt much in the valley; yet methought the dew rested on my humble habitation.

9. These two days much occupied with company, waiting on my dear father, attending my girls, &c. so as to leave but little time for religious retirement.

12. Staid at home from meeting with my dear father; and the Lord, who is not confined to place or space, broke in upon my soul with his life-giving presence, to my great comfort and refreshment. For ever praised be his excellent name, who is alone worthy.

15. Fresh cause to moan my instability. O my soul, when wilt thou learn wisdom?

16. Peaceful and quiet.

19. My dear father seized with another apoplectic fit; but not so violent as the former, nor of

so long duration. I was favoured to feel calm under this trying dispensation.

20. Sat up with my dear father last night; in which season my mind enjoyed sweet solace.

22. My beloved father favoured with a good night; awoke refreshed this morning, and his faculties much restored. O, that I may be thankful enough for this renewed favour.

24. My beloved father very low this evening; fearing the work had not kept pace with the day: my mind sweetly contrited before the Father of Mercies, and encouraged in the belief that he would find acceptance.

28. Measurably owned by Him (who is the crown of all our religious assemblies), both in our morning and afternoon meeting; but got off my watch too soon in the latter.

31. And now I am come to the close of another year. What progress, O my soul, hast thou made in the heavenly race? What increase of spiritual strength? I fear not much; yet am thankful in believing I am preserved in a good degree of spiritual health: and thus much can I say on behalf of a merciful Creator, that hitherto, notwithstanding my manifold weaknesses, he hath helped me.

FIRST MONTH, 1795.

1. And now, O my soul, mayest thou begin this year with renewed dedication of heart to the Lord's service. I desire so to do. Strengthen my feeble endeavours, O Lord, if it be thy will.

9. A precious season this morning in our little silent gathering, my soul was prostrated before the Lord in deep reverence and thankfulness that he should deign to lift up the light of his glorious countenance upon one so unworthy.

13. Have been favoured at times to commune with my own heart and be still. By this means we are favoured by the light of truth to see what need we have of a merciful Redeemer.

15. Not spent idly as to action, but gave way to vain and roving thoughts, for which I deservedly feel condemnation.

18. A precious season this morning at meeting, was favoured to feel something of the seal of adoption on my spirit, for which unmerited mercy, all within me magnified the name of the Lord, who lives and abides for ever.

22. My apprehensions afresh awakened on my dear father's account; a poor account also of a dear sister who is confined with a fever; and what increases my distress is, I cannot leave my dear father, to go and see her.

27. The cares and perplexities of this world have too much occupied my mind, some of which

I fear I have not borne with that patience and submission I ought to have done; yet think I have laboured after this attainment.

30. A good account of my dear sister.

SECOND MONTH, 1795.

. A thoroughly busy day, leaving the mind but little leisure for spiritual improvement.

6. A precious season this morning in our little silent week-day meeting. O, that our lukewarm professors would but come, taste, and see for themselves, "that the Lord is good:" surely they would not be negligent in the attendance of these religious opportunities.

11. Have been confined these several days by indisposition. I felt poor and weak every way, yet in a pretty quiet frame of mind.

12. Have this morning waited at Wisdom's gate, where I have been renewedly instructed and shown my own insufficiency for every good word and work. I love to be thus emptied and stripped of every filthy rag of self-righteousness, and to feel the Lord reign whose right it is, and who is alone worthy of all praise, dominion, and majesty.

20. Favoured to feel the best of teachers near this morning in our little silent week-day meeting, dispensing the bread of life to the hungry soul.

21. Too impatient with my dear father to-

day. O, for an increase of this excellent virtue ;
which enables to bear all things with meekness.

THIRD MONTH, 1795.

1. Methought my mind resembled the barren heath or wilderness when I sat down in meeting to-day ; neither dew nor fields of offering : yet was the Lord graciously pleased to bestow both these divine blessings after waiting awhile, to him be the praise who is alone worthy.

5. My close attention to my dear father, and frequent visits to the sick, joined to family concerns, hath not left me much time for religious retirement this week, yet have believed I was in the way of my duty.

6. Went to monthly-meeting this morning under much depression of mind (occasioned by my dear father's and uncle Kidd's illness), where my strength and confidence in the Lord was renewed, and I was in a good degree enabled to say "Thy will be done."

8. A precious heart-tendering season at meeting to-day, though no ministering friend present ; methought the minister of the sanctuary was known amongst us by the breaking of bread.

11. These several days too much occupied with outward things, so that the better part hath not been improved as much as it probably might, had I been more retired in my mind.

13. My soul thirsted this morning for the living God, who in great condescension appeared to my comfort and refreshment, may I walk more worthy such unmerited favours.

15. Though tried with a roving disposition when I first sat down at meeting this morning, yet the Lord was pleased to bless my feeble endeavours to maintain the warfare, and graciously to lift up the light of his glorious countenance upon me, and, removing the spirit of heaviness, to give me the garment of praise.

21. This week hath been pretty fully occupied in close attention to my dear father, who hath been and continues very ill.

22. My dear father better; cause of thankfulness. When I sat down in meeting this morning methought I felt the hovering wing of ancient Goodness, but getting off my watch lost ground, and was left for a while in a dry and barren spot. Yet I was desirous that I might not be tempted in the absence of my spiritual Moses to make to myself a calf and worship it, as the Israelites did formerly, and He who saw the sincerity of my heart was pleased to appear again with healing under his wings. O, may I be enabled to make a suitable return for such unmerited goodness and mercy.

27. Favoured with a little of the brook by the way, in my solitary sitting this morning in my chamber.

29. Was led this morning at meeting to number my blessings, and to acknowledge, in the depth

of humility, my utter unworthiness of the manifold kindness and condescension of the Lord towards me; and also to crave a continuance of his fatherly care and providence over me, well knowing, from a fresh feeling thereof, that he was the centre of all good.

31. My dear father seized with epilepsy, so that for many hours we had not the least expectation of his recovery. In this season of sore conflict I found it necessary to repair to the Rock of my strength, and had not he graciously sustained me, surely I had fainted; but in his wonted goodness he was pleased to walk on the sea, and command a calm, so that my poor mind was brought into great quietness, and could in a good degree adopt the language of Thy will and not mine be done.

FOURTH MONTH, 1795.

2. My dear father worse again; has been delirious all night, and still remains so: so that there is fresh need to apply for renewal of strength and resignation to the divine will.

3. Felt the hovering wing of ancient Goodness as I sat by my dear father's bed-side to-day; and was comforted in believing he was made a partaker of the blessing.

6. Went to Guildford to attend the quarterly meeting, beset with many fears lest I should not be able to go through the business. The meeting for

worship I thought a low season, but was helped in the meeting for discipline to get through the business to tolerable satisfaction ; to the Lord be the praise, to whom my soul bows in humble gratitude for all his mercies both ancient and new.

9. The two last days taken up with company, &c. yet when in company my soul hath at seasons flown to the ark of its rest, finding none in any thing short of the divine excellency.

26. Though I sat down at meeting this morning in much poverty, yet through the goodness of the Shepherd of Israel my little store was increased, and my soul satisfied with his living presence. Unspeakable favour !

28. My mind sweetly encouraged and animated to press forward towards the mark, by reading the account of my dear aunt Townsend's last journey into Scotland. The perfect dedication of heart that appears, is comfortable, as well as her peaceful close. May I so walk that my latter end may be like hers.

30. Had to feel and lament my natural proneness to evil. Surely, I often think, none more so, so that unless the Lord, who hitherto has preserved me (blessed for ever be his name!) be still graciously pleased to watch over me, I shall yet, I fear, fall by the way: I love to feel my dependance, and from whence my help cometh.

FIFTH MONTH, 1795.

3. Staid at home with my father in the morning. In the afternoon laboured according to ability; when, after a while, the stone was rolled from the well's mouth, and my thirsty soul refreshed with living water. Others also I believe were partakers with me in this unmerited blessing.

8. Under much depression on account of a fresh scene of trial. O, that He, who hath seen meet to afflict, may be pleased to sustain through this trying dispensation.

9. My mind sweetly encouraged this morning at meeting with a renewed evidence, that though the Lord afflicts he hath not forsaken. For ever blessed be his holy name.

11. A time of close inward exercise this morning, at meeting; was desirous I might not get from under it, or off my watch, which I was enabled to maintain till the meeting broke up.

15. Humbled deeply under a sense of some failures; yet was desirous of abiding under the purifying hand, that the wound might not be healed deceitfully.

21. These several days have been fully taken up with company and attending my dear father; who has had another alarming seizure.

24. A time of sweet solace in my solitary sitting in my father's chamber; while the family were at meeting this morning.

27. A time of much anxiety, my dear father continuing in a very tried situation; I laboured, though I fear but feebly, after a thorough resignation to the divine will.

SIXTH MONTH, 1795.

4. More comfortable and quiet, for which favour I think I have been truly glad.

5. I sat down in great weakness this morning at meeting, but after waiting patiently, the Lord was graciously pleased to arise: then were his enemies scattered, and my soul permitted to enjoy divine communion with him, whom I desire to love better than riches or length of days.

7. I found the adversary busy to-day at meeting in endeavouring to draw my attention from its proper centre; but received strength to overcome his stratagems, and was enabled to draw water out of his reach. For ever blessed and praised be Israel's Shepherd: who leadeth and feedeth his dependant children, yea, the least and meanest of his flock.

11. A quiet and comfortable day.

12. Divers calling in, I was too light in conversation; in other respects [a day] not ill spent.

18. My mind affected, on hearing of the deviation of several who stood in the foremost rank, and ought to have been as waymarks. Surely it is enough to make one of the hindermost of the flock

tremble, when the standard-bearers faint and give way. Double thy watch therefore my soul, lest thou also fall a prey to the devourer. A sweet contriving season in my chamber in the evening.

19. I think I did my best to-day at meeting; but thought it a low season, to which bodily indisposition contributed.

21. Discharged an apprehended duty, in writing to a friend, who I believe is straying wide from the true fold.

25. Think I have been enabled to step along in safety these few last days, having frequently felt my good guide near.

26. Though our meeting was silent to-day (as is often the case), yet I thought it was good to be there, and could say, Better is an hour spent in thy courts than a thousand elsewhere.

27. Discharged my duty to-day as an overseer, in giving an affectionate caution to a young woman of whom I had heard a painful circumstance; which she resented highly. However, was favoured to feel tolerably peaceful under it, relieving I had not moved in it in my own will.

28. My mind strengthened in the belief that I had acted in the above-mentioned affair as became my station, though it met with so unfriendly reception. I was desirous of keeping quiet under it, and of being preserved from harbouring any resentment, yet keeping firm, as the cause was not my own, and worthy suffering for.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1795.

2. Have dwelt much in the valley these few days, yet have cause to believe the blessing hath rested upon me in my lowly situation, so that the language of my soul has been, Return to thy rest for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.

5. Went to Wandsworth to attend the quarterly meeting.

6. The meeting to-day I thought unusual favoured, a divine visitation seemed afresh extended to the backsliders in our Israel. My soul was deeply bowed under a sense thereof. O the condescending goodness of Infinite Wisdom towards the workmanship of his hands; the meanest of which I often conclude myself. Many strangers attended, among them Sarah Harrison and Sarah Birkbeck. Returned home humble and peaceful. Found my dear father as when I left him. "What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits?"

7. I fear I have not felt sufficiently grateful to-day for the favour conferred yesterday.

12. Staid at home in the morning with my dear father; went to our afternoon meeting, where after some close labour I was graciously favoured with access to the throne of grace; when my mind was unexpectedly drawn to supplicate for my dear father, that the Lord would be pleased to sustain him in the solemn hour of death, whenever he

mitted, and finally admit him to the mansions of eternal felicity.

13. My dear father seized this morning with another epileptic attack.

17. My dear father again better though low.

23. This hath been hitherto a very trying week, which I have sometimes borne with a good degree of patience and resignation; at others not so much so, as I should have done; poor nature being overcharged: yet desire to labour after it, and that no repining thought may find room in my heart.

24. Saw in the light to which I desired to bring my deeds this morning at meeting, that I had acted disingenuously in a circumstance that had occurred in the morning; though the motive that induced me was to spare another pain, yet I am not sure that it was justifiable. However, notwithstanding this failure, was graciously admitted to the mercy-seat, where the sceptre of love was stretched forth.

26. Sat down at meeting this morning, uncommonly encompassed with infirmity, having given way too much to unprofitable thoughts; yet being enabled to press through the crowd, and touch the hem of the garment which communicates healing virtue, found it as infallible as ever, to my comfort and thankfulness.

31. Sat the forepart of the meeting in a desert land where I could discern no path for my

feet; but after waiting a while, light was graciously vouchsafed, and, the spirit of heaviness being removed, my soul became arrayed with the garment of praise. Yet even in this state found the enemy near with evil suggestions, but keeping my eye single, think he gained no advantage over me.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1795.

6. Went with Elizabeth Moline, by appointment of the monthly meeting, to read the yearly meeting's epistles in those friends' families who do not attend meetings for discipline. We were enabled to give, I trust, a little suitable counsel on the occasion.

12. Fully dissatisfied with myself, and had to exclaim with one formerly, "The heart is deceitful above all things;" under a humbling sense of which I was deeply contrited, and begged for an increase of strength and wisdom.

14. Had much rubbish to dig through this morning at meeting, before I could get to the pure spring, yet had to acknowledge it was well worth my pains; and that I was an unworthy partaker of such an inestimable blessing.

19. Renewedly desirous this morning of doubling the watch, that nothing may be permitted to enter and defile the temple, which the Holy Lord God is at times graciously pleased to visit.

21. Was afraid I had done wrong this evening in omitting an apprehended duty, giving way to creaturely reasoning and fear.

24. My mind sweet and peaceful under some disquieting circumstances.

NINTH MONTH, 1795.

1. These several days pretty fully take up with my beloved father, who had another alarming seizure : under which trial I have felt, as heretofore, divine support near to sustain.

2. An unexpected sweet little opportunity to-day in my dear father's chamber : in which George Dillwyn had to express his belief that the hope my father entertained of his future well-being would never be permitted to perish. In a sweet and encouraging manner he enlarged a little on the duty and advantage of full resignation to the divine will. He had a public meeting this morning, which was to my apprehension a favoured season. I spent the rest of the day in sweet society.

4. Our monthly meeting. In the silent part of the meeting for worship, my spirit sweetly tendered under the consideration of the many favours vouchsafed. George Dillwyn appeared acceptably in testimony. Went in the evening to Wanborough with some friends, where I spent the day with them, I trust, in innocent cheerfulness.

6. Went this morning to Arundel with Morris Birkbeck, jun. and the aforesaid friends, where we met with many friends assembled, and think it was a season of renewed favour. George Dillwyn appeared in testimony and supplication. After meeting parted with my friends, and returned home in the evening.

8. A fatiguing day, yet found a little leisure in the evening to retire to the fountain of sure mercies, where my spirit was sweetly contrited, and refreshed under the fresh feeling of the extension of divine regard.

13. A precious little season in my dear father's chamber, while the family were at meeting this morning.

16. These last few days spent well as to action, except some little impatience; but have too much given way to unprofitable thoughts, so that at times I have deeply mourned my instability; yet have again relapsed into the same disposition. Again I have sought after that Word which maketh clean, and though so unworthy, have felt it to purify my vessel. I make this remark by no means boastingly, but to show the loving kindness of the Lord, who willeth our sanctification.

24. Rather a bustling day. Retired in the evening to Wisdom's gate, where I sat in much poverty and weakness, and was afresh convinced that nothing short of the key of David could give access to the fountain of life.

27. The enemy, ever busy to betray, drew me off my watch to-day at meeting; so that I sustained loss, which I lamented.

TENTH MONTH, 1795.

1. The recollection of some weaknesses accompanied my mind in looking over yesterday and to-day; but at times I have felt the secret touches of my heavenly Father's love in which I had to rejoice.

2. Was favoured to sit under the Lord's teaching this morning in our little silent week-day meeting; for which blessing I desire to improve. The rest of the day fatiguing, and attended with a painful circumstance to my mind, to see youth trained up in the way they should not go; and too wise in their own eyes, to receive instruction from those who have had more experience.

4. Went to Esher to our quarterly meeting, but was too ill to attend either of the sittings.

9. Much better. A little renewal of strength this morning in my sitting in my father's chamber.

14. Had fresh occasion to lament my proneness to evil, and to see the subtilty of self-love, how it creeps into the most trifling actions of our lives.

16. A sweet contriting and instructive season in our little silent week-day meeting. Gave way to impatience in the night with my dear father,

which cost me some tears, and I earnestly besought an increase of strength proportioned to the trial of the day.

20. Renewedly desirous of rising above the weakness of nature, and that I may know every thought and desire brought into subjection, and under the government of the Prince of Peace.

23. Gave way to anger on a trifling occasion, for which I feel condemnation; nor has the rest of the day been so much improved as it might have been.

25. Rather low times both morning and afternoon meetings. Mary Stacey had a strengthening opportunity, to my mind at least, in our family in the evening.

29. My time has been so much taken up this week with company, attending on my dear father, &c. as to afford but little opportunity for religious improvement; yet think I have been enabled to step along with a good degree of circumspection.

30. This morning's meeting a season to be remembered, for the fresh descending of heavenly dew; under which precious influence my soul was secretly and unexpectedly drawn forth to petition the Lord on my beloved father's account, that he might be his in the day that he made up his jewels; and the sweetness which accompanied my mind gave me reason to hope my prayer would be answered. It is with a heart replete with gratitude that I thus commemorate the gracious dealings of the Lord.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1795.

My beloved father again seized with epi-

My strength and confidence a little renewed this morning at meeting, which I esteem an inestimable favour. My dear father gradually recovering:

I. Have had but little opportunity for retirement these few days past; and when I found and embraced it, I have thought my lot much resembled nature as to the outward, a barren season. I could find but little verdure, or abundant fruit; yet at other times have felt the convicting power of truth near, which has drawn my mind into peaceful quiet; which I esteem a blessing.

II. A roving lukewarm disposition too much prevailed in the early part of the meeting; but the Shepherd graciously condescended to stretch out the crook of his love, and gently draw me towards him. He was in abundant mercy pleased to animate my faith, by afresh disclosing the beauty and excellent order of the new creation; and what perfect harmony every duty might be performed, did we dwell enough under the pure principle of truth; no clashing, no interfering one with another, but each performed in its allotted station. Then indeed should we know Jerusalem to be a quiet habitation and a safe hiding-place.

26. Was favoured to lie down as beside the still waters this morning in our little silent week-day meeting. How unworthy, I must still repeat it, of such a blessing! the rest of the week I fear not much improved, yet in reviewing it do not feel much condemnation.

27. This week hath been so fully occupied in attending my dear father, working for the poor, and visiting the sick, as to allow scarcely time for religious retirement; yet I have believed from the peaceful state of my mind that I have been in my proper allotment. Should these remarks ever meet any eye but my own, I hope the reader will not think that they are mentioned as any thing meritorious. Far be it from me! well knowing how very imperfectly I fill up my various duties; and that the best of us are but unprofitable servants.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1795.

6. Favoured with near access to the throne of grace this morning in our silent meeting. When thus permitted to ascend the mount, how are we like Peter wishing to tabernacle there, unwilling to return again to the earth; but remember, O my soul, this is not thy resting place, and that the full fruition of the crown is reserved for those who hold out to the end. Let the foretaste of it

animate thee to press forward, that thou mayst so run as to obtain.

12. The duties of this week, I trust, in a good degree fulfilled. On a strict scrutiny I do not feel any thing condemn me, but some little impatience.

17. When I awoke this morning I found my mind drawn into sweet quiet. I was soon after summoned to my dear father, who was seized with another attack, which was very severe indeed: under which fresh trial I was preserved in a good degree of calm resignation, and was thankful that my mind had been prepared.

20. Attended the general meeting at Guildford; which, though unusually small, was owned by Him who is the crown thereof. To him be the praise ascribed, who is alone worthy.

27. A favoured season this morning at meeting, though no outward ministry. Yet those who centred to the gift in themselves were favoured to know a teacher, that cannot be removed into a corner. Blessed privilege!

31. This week hath I think altogether been spent in the service of others hitherto. I have had but little leisure for religious retirement, yet trust I have been in my place.

FIRST MONTH, 1796.

6. These two days well spent as to actions; but my mind in too lukewarm a state.

7. Took a solitary walk in the field, where the mildness of the season, and the beauty of the creation gilded by the rays of the setting sun (notwithstanding it was mid-winter), awakened my soul to gratitude in contemplating the various blessings bestowed on poor fallen man, by the bounteous Author of all good; who is so little seen and acknowledged in his works. And though contemplating his perfections made me feel my own nothingness, yet there is something so inexpressibly sweet in this humble state of mind (and the tears which accompanied it), that I am often led to covet it in preference to any other; for it is not at our command.

8. Was desirous this morning, as is frequently my concern, to be weighed in the balance of the sanctuary, that so I might be favoured to see my various deficiencies, and improve the future; that at the solemn close I may not be found wanting.

10. In my silent waiting before the Lord this morning at meeting, I was comforted in the belief that notwithstanding my various weaknesses, love to him and his cause, had the pre-eminence above every worldly consideration.

15. I believe there were a few gathered in the name of Jesus to-day at meeting, who were favoured to feel him preside amongst them. How much to be lamented that any should miss so great a privilege for want of centring to the pure gift in themselves!

17. The morning not spent profitably; and,

having company to dinner, my mind was so dissipated that when I sat down in meeting I found it hard work to get it stayed. Mourning and self-abasement were my portion ; in which humbled state I was favoured to feel the healing waters flow, to my great consolation and encouragement. An unmerited mercy !

20. On recounting the varied blessings I enjoy (this morning), the query revived, What lackest thou yet ? The grateful acknowledgment of my heart was, Nothing, Lord, but a more perfect dedication to thee, and resignation of my will : in which I am fully satisfied our peace and safety consist.

22. My dear father sleeping while the family were at meeting, I had a comfortable time in retirement in his chamber.

24. Had a lukewarm spirit to combat with the forefront of the meeting ; but after wrestling a while was enabled to flee to Him, whose name is a strong tower.

29. Have been, much indisposed this week, and my dear father very restless ; yet my faith and strength a little renewed this morning at meeting, which I esteem a favour.

SECOND MONTH, 1796.

2. Attended our monthly meeting, which proved a sweet instructive season, though held in silence.

6. - My dear father had another alarming seizure this evening, under which trial was favoured to feel divine support.

11. Came to Wanborough, in order to recruit a little my health; having suffered by long confinement and close attention to my beloved father.

15. On reviewing the last few days find nothing to boast of, but my many infirmities both of body and mind; my feelings having been uncommonly trying.

20. Have spent the last few days pleasantly in the society of my kind friends, and feel myself better : cause of thankfulness !

23. A small company of us to-day at meeting ; but was renewedly convinced of the truth of that declaration, " Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

28. Was favoured this morning, in our silent meeting, to sit under the teachings of the great Minister of the sanctuary, who is verifying his promise of teaching his people himself. Gracious condescension !

THIRD MONTH, 1796.

6. My dear father visited with another attack. That the afflictions which surround us, and are doubtless allotted in infinite wisdom, may all work

together for good; and patience have its perfect work, is the sincere prayer of my heart.

11. Was in hopes while the family were at meeting to have communed with my own heart and been still; but was so much indisposed, that I could not get my mind centred. Poor creature as I am!

13. Not wishing to eat the bread of idleness, I laboured according to my measure, this morning at meeting, and my hungry soul was satisfied with the presence of him, who is invincible. In the afternoon was beset with roving thoughts to which I too much yielded.

17. A sweet solitary walk in the field this evening, rendered so by feeling something of the divine unction resting upon my mind.

18. Sat at meeting this morning in a good degree of holy silence, where secret instruction was conveyed to my hungry soul, to my humble admiration.

26. This week hath been so fully taken up with company, &c. as to leave me but little leisure, yet trust the better part has not been wholly neglected.

27. On a review of this day, do not feel satisfied with myself, though favoured with a degree of divine enjoyment in both our meetings, yet did not keep stedfastly on the watch.

FOURTH MONTH, 1796.

1. A precious baptizing season in our little week-day meeting, may I walk worthy of such unmerited favours.

3. Found it hard work to get my poor weak mind to any degree of settlement, so that on looking over the day find that nothing was due to the creature, but blushing and confusion of face.

4. At meeting this morning my mind was favoured to renew its strength, and enabled beyond expectation to get through the business, I hope to tolerable satisfaction. No praise due to the creature, well knowing from whence my sufficiency cometh!

8. An humbling sense of my manifold infirmities is the companion of my mind this day. How unable we are to preserve ourselves one moment! Surely then there is need to watch unto prayer.

12. I often feel the imperfections of my nature so forcibly, that the enemy is ready to suggest that it is in vain to maintain the warfare; but I remember he was a liar from the beginning, and that he is still seeking whom to betray. The good Shepherd, whose mercy is over all his works, still graciously extends it to me (the meanest of them I am at times ready to conclude), and animates my faith to press forward, through the many encumbering things that retard my progress

Zion-ward. What return can I make for all his benefits? O, that he may be pleased to enable me to make straight steps to my feet, for he well knows my inability to take one aright without his assistance.

21. My dear father much worse for a week past; and having company almost daily, my time has been much engrossed; yet think it has not been spent vainly.

22. Found a little leisure this morning while the family were at meeting, and my dear father asleep, to retire to the Fountain of all good: when my mind was mercifully replenished with the sweet influences of divine regard.

29. An humbling season this morning at meeting to my poor, very poor mind.

FIFTH MONTH, 1796.

2. A thoroughly busy day. How often do I turn disgusted from the world, meeting with insincerity! May it have its proper effect and wean me from it, and induce me to press with more earnestness after a city which hath foundations.

4. Sweetly and profitably spent! My mind being preserved in a watchful state, was favoured to feel the good hand near.

8. My beloved father gradually drawing towards the solemn close. In this time of trial am thankful to feel my mind preserved in awful quiet.

9. This day at half past four in the afternoon, the solemn scene closed; and the spirit of my beloved father forsook its afflicted tabernacle; and is, I doubt not, become an inhabitant of that city where sighing and sorrow cease. Blessed exchange! How consolating is the prospect! This belief sustained my mind amid the pangs of separation; but hearing in the evening the weak state my dear sister was in, it increased the tide of grief so much, that my feeble nature seemed almost overwhelmed.

13. Graciously permitted access to the healing fountain this evening, from whence I was sweetly refreshed.

14. Several of our relations and friends came in order to attend the funeral of my beloved father. After supper George Dillwyn appeared in an encouraging testimony, informing us of the sweet persuasion he entertained that he was landed safe in the heavenly mansions, exhorting those present so to keep their eye to the divine compass, that in the end we may all arrive at the same port.

15. Took an affecting leave of the remains of my beloved father, whose placid countenance looked sweet even in death. It was followed to the grave by a large number of relations, friends, and acquaintance. The forepart of the meeting I thought uncommonly solemn, considering the mixed company it was composed of. The silence which prevailed was remarkable; yet my poor mind was much deserted till towards the conclu-

sion ; and at the grave the healing balm was dispensed to my humble admiration and thankfulness. After dinner our dear friends left us, parting under a solemn covering in sweet fellowship, my mind being deeply bowed under a sense of the manifold favours conferred on us.

18. These several days spent in quiet ; I believe the good Shepherd hath been near. I have felt something of the extension of his divine crook both in my uprisings, and lyings-down. O, that I was more worthy of such continued condescension.

20. Our week-day meeting, a season I longed for ; yet on my sitting down felt-encompassed with poverty ; but after a patient waiting, the stone was graciously rolled away from the well's mouth, and as [the spring] arose, I was enabled to sing unto it. I write not these things boastingly : but as memorials of the loving-kindness of the Lord to such an unworthy creature.

31. Went to Guildford to our monthly meeting, where, after a time of drought, my soul was sweetly refreshed, as by a brook by the way.

SIXTH MONTH, 1796.

5. The forepart of the meeting sat in dryness, but having my eye single to the Lord, he was graciously pleased to make the desert rejoice and

blossom as the rose, by his life-giving presence. The afternoon a dull heavy meeting.

12. Though not favoured with so sensible an enjoyment of the divine presence as at some other seasons; yet was preserved in a quiet frame of mind, and in a good degree of watchfulness: in which I believe I was accepted.

18. Though I have had but little leisure for retirement this week past, yet have been favoured to feel good near me at times.

19. Seasons of renewed favour, both morning and afternoon meetings; in the former something of the vision of the holy waters was opened to my understanding.

22. Feel low and poor every way.

26. Methought the spring lay low, requiring deep labour to get at it; which however was blessed, being favoured with a little of its arising.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1796.

3. Thomas Scattergood, with other friends, attended our quarterly meeting to-day [at Wandsworth], which was a deeply baptizing season, not soon to be forgotten by some present. Oh, the long-suffering of a merciful God, who is still extending his visitation to a backsliding generation! How was my soul bowed under a sense of it!

4. The divine sweetness which attended my mind, soon after my sitting down to-day at meet-

ng, I thought was worth coming so far for ; had I been favoured with no other enjoyment ; and the prayer of my heart was that I might be preserved under its precious influence, during the sittings of the meetings both for worship and discipline ; which was in good measure the case.

5. Came to town in the evening, called on George Dillwyn to take leave of him, before his embarkation for Germany. We had a sweetly contriting season together, and parted, I trust, under the influence of best love ; not knowing we should ever meet again in mutability.

6. [Went] to Chelmsford in the afternoon, desirous to retain a grateful sense of the favours I have been made a partaker of.

10. Was very desirous that the great work of redemption might be carried on to the praise of Him who is able to effect it.

18. Went to the monthly meeting at Colchester ; which appeared, like many others, in a weak low state ; yet was favoured with a quiet refreshing season in the meeting for worship.

22. Went this evening to Stortford, to attend a public meeting appointed for Thomas Scattergood, the silent part of which was a season of sweet solace to my mind ; yea, it seemed for a short space, as though it was swallowed up in the divine immensity ; and was, like Peter formerly, desirous of tabernacling there, unwilling to return again to earth and earthly things, to a state of warfare.

23. Thomas Scattergood came to Stansted, I had some of his company, but was so unwell I could not enjoy it as I should otherwise have done. I began to consider the enjoyment, I had been favoured with the evening before, as a prelude to a severe illness, or my final change, under which I was favoured with a quiet resignation.

24. Feel much better than I had reason to expect from the violence of the seizure. May I be sufficiently thankful.

28. Thomas Scattergood (with George and Elizabeth Gibson) came again to Stansted this morning, and had a public meeting with the neighbours, and was favoured in a more eminent manner than I had before heard him. How did the bowels of divine compassion seem to yearn towards the people ! The gospel was truly preached to the poor in spirit ; but Oh ! I found it was to many only like a pleasant song. How discouraging this must be to the poor exercised messengers ; who are thus evidently sent to the highways and hedges with an invitation to the marriage-feast. I think I sat amongst them in humility and fear, desirous that if I was not in any degree able to assist these favoured instruments by the exercise of my spirit, as I concluded I was not, that I might not add to their burden by unwatchfulness. Spent the rest of the day in sweet society.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1796.

6. Came home, and found all relations generally well, which, with the many other favours bestowed on me, I desire to live under a grateful sense of, and improve to my eternal advantage.

11. On a retrospection of the last few days, think they have not been spent altogether unprofitably; yet have sometimes given way, as usual, too much to a roving disposition; at others have felt the restricting power of truth near, sweetly bounding my thoughts and desires.

12. Was enabled this morning at meeting, through adorable mercy, after a time of labour, to offer up the sacrifice of thanksgiving for mercies both ancient and new.

18. Afresh humbled under a sense of my weaknesses; and sincere desires arose for preservation and renewed strength to walk uprightly before the God of my life.

23. Having a word of reproof to hand to a delinquent, it induced me to turn inward, and see how things stood there, which humbled and contrited my spirit before the Lord, desiring him to search out every thing offensive in his pure sight: being afresh convinced that the work belongs to him, for without him we can indeed do nothing.

31. Feeling some wrong dispositions arising, found it safest to recur to the Fountain of living

mercies for strength to subdue them, and to implore the continuance of his protecting providence.

NINTH MONTH, 1796.

14. These several days pretty much taken up with company, and preparing for a journey, and my mind too much occupied with trifles.

16. A temptation presented on my first sitting down at meeting, which my weak mind was too much inclined to join in with ; but happily seeing the snare, I was enabled to flee to Him, whose name is a strong tower, who graciously condescended to bless my feeble endeavours, and give ability to mount a little upward, and render him the praise of his own work, who is for ever worthy thereof.

25. After some exercise, my mind was gathered in a good degree into the silence of all flesh ; where the Father was, I humbly trust, worshipped in spirit and in truth.

TENTH MONTH, 1796.

6. Had humbling views of myself to-day at meeting ; yet, if I know my own heart, I love these stripping seasons, love to see self laid low, and of no reputation at all, that the Lord may be alone exalted, who is worthy thereof for ever.

8. Have felt something of an unusual sadness

his day or two past, which hath caused some searching of heart. O, that it abode more fully under divine influence, that its goings might be established.

12. Sitting down in a good degree of humility and nothingness, my vessel was replenished with heavenly oil, which greatly cheered my drooping mind, and encouraged me to hold on my way.

16. Though I went to meeting in much poverty, and beset with unprofitable thoughts, yet was soon favoured to feel an awful solemnity cover my mind, under which was preserved the greater part of the meeting.

23. Think I did not eat the bread of idleness to-day at meeting, having to struggle with my manifold weaknesses: yet am thankful at times to feel the warfare maintained.

26. Reached Bristol late this evening after a fatiguing journey.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1796.

3. Dear Sarah and Hannah Stephenson called on us, and we had a comfortable sitting together in my dear sister's chamber. Sarah was led in an encouraging manner, and had to mention the blessing which rested on the head of Joseph, desiring it might be ours.

6. Was enabled to break through a host as it were, and drink a little of the water that is [by]

the gate of Bethlehem; for which unmerited favour my soul praised the Lord, who is alone worthy for ever.

10. At the evening meeting, my poor soul much encompassed with weakness and infirmity; but waiting patiently and humbly at Wisdom's gate, the clouds were at length dispersed, and the Lord, in his great goodness, blessed me with the lifting up of the light of his glorious countenance.

15. A time of poverty and desertion this morning at meeting; so that my poor soul was led to crave the crumbs that fall from the table, like the poor Gentile formerly, if unworthy to partake as a child of the heavenly family.

25. Having omitted to minute down the several last days for want of suitable opportunity, I do not recollect particulars; but this I know that I never had more humbling views of myself than of late; and strong desires have been raised at times, that I might be enabled to walk more faithfully in the path of self-denial and the daily cross.

28. Called on several friends, intending to leave Bristol in a day or two, and spent about an hour profitably and pleasantly with dear Hannah Stephenson and her aged mother.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1796.

8. These last few days spent pleasantly in the society of beloved relations; and would hope not

ether unprofitably. *My brother and sister
ing left us, my dear mother and self, now
g down together in our quiet habitation,
ful, I trust, for the many favours we are made
kers of.

. These last few days spent well as to
1, as far as I know; but have given too much
de to my roving mind.

. A time of great desertion and poverty this
ing at meeting; which, I trust, profitably
led my poor mind.

. A trying time this morning at meeting. It
ed as if the severity of the weather had
d all hearts. Mine was too lukewarm, I
under an humbling sense of which I went to
ternoon meeting, which unexpectedly proved
et, contriving season.

Part of this week hath been much taken
endeavouring to establish a fund for the
of poor women in child-bed; and hitherto
net with encouragement and success, beyond
tation. It hath been humbling to my poor
that my feeble endeavours should be blessed,
iat so mean an instrument should find favour
he people; which I considered the Lord's
, and have earnestly desired that I might not
ite any thing to the creature; but might be
ved from this snare, well-knowing that I can

ould seem that her brother and sister returned with
1 Bristol.

do nothing aright, without the assistance of that wisdom, which is alone profitable to direct.

FIRST MONTH, 1797.

1. I was enabled this morning at meeting to cast down every crown as at the footstool of Jesus. The afternoon was a season of poverty: owing, I fear, to lukewarmness. Poor unstable creature!

5. This week, like the last, has been mostly spent in the service of the institution I have been endeavouring to promote; and which has been successful beyond my most sanguine expectations. It has been truly pleasant to see with what cheerfulness most of the subscriptions have been given. Yet even here I have found abundant cause of watchfulness. Self, busy self, would fain put in for a share: which hath caused, I trust, a godly jealousy, lest I should attribute any thing to the creature; and a fear hath also prevailed, lest I should, in any respect, balk my testimony in my frequent intercourse with the gentry; which must necessarily occur in the establishment of such an institution; but think I have hitherto been enabled to steer pretty clear (though not without my buffetings) which is cause of humble thankfulness.

9. Attended our quarterly meeting at Kingston, which was very small, and, I thought, an affecting low season; the weakness of our situation being so apparent, and yet no way seemed

to open to mend it. It seemed to me as if the few sincere-hearted amongst us were not sufficient for these things.

15. A season of encouragement this morning at meeting; being favoured with a renewed evidence that I had an interest in Him, who is the beloved of souls. The afternoon, the little while I got my mind stayed, was humbling.

17. This week hath mostly been devoted to the service of others, and I would hope not spent unprofitably; yet fears and doubts do at times so encompass my poor mind that I am ready to fear I do nothing aright.

22. Times of proving again to-day, both morning and afternoon, yet my mind a little relieved from the pressure it lay under.

25. I have endeavoured to perform the duties of these several days past faithfully, in lowliness and a good degree of fear. That I may be preserved so to the end of time is my sincere desire.

27. A time of sweet encouragement afforded me this morning at meeting, so that my soul leaned, as it were, on its beloved. Inestimable favour!

29. My strength and faith in the Lord renewed, so that I could put my trust under the shadow of his wings; yet the close exercises of mind, which have of late attended, have not yet wholly left me, nor do I wish it (I think) till the Lord's time, which is ever the best. Too unwatchful in the afternoon meeting.

SECOND MONTH, 1797.

3. Though I had to wrestle awhile for blessing, this morning at meeting, yet was no empty away: such is the continued kindness gracious Providence to, I am often led to thin meaneft of his works.

5. Again plunged into the deeps. May frequent baptisms tend to my purification: enable me to endure with patience and resign every dispensation of unerring wisdom; until made conformable to his holy will in all things.

9. Methought the language of the poor can become me best this morning at meeting at times my mind has been a little cheered by the belief, that He, whom I desire to serve, not only seen my lowly walking before him, but that his blessing hath rested upon me; that at other seasons I could not discern it.

19. My thirsty soul replenished with a little of the wine of the kingdom this morning. How worthy such a favour I esteemed myself!

26. The meeting I thought measurably blessed by Him, who is the crown of all our assemblies and the prayer of my heart was, that he would be pleased to enable me to walk before him in acceptance. This is what at times I am desirous to aspire after more than any temporal blessing.

28. I fear I have not so fully borne the burden as I should have done.

THIRD MONTH, 1797.

2. My mind more tranquil and comfortable; yet have daily to experience that weakness and infirmity are my companions.

3. Though I could only touch the hem of his garment to-day at meeting, yet I found virtue in it; and thought it an unspeakable favour that I should be permitted to approach the Beloved of souls: one so unworthy and so remote from his infinite perfection.

5. A season of poverty in the morning meeting; though I was enabled to keep pretty much on the watch. In the afternoon, on my first sitting down, a temptation presented itself, to which I too much yielded for a time; but the good Remembrancer being near, soon brought me into the valley of deep contrition, where I was favoured to experience reconciliation.

9. My mind hath been much in the valley these last few days; where I find it safest to keep.

10. Was comforted to-day (at meeting) in the renewed belief, notwithstanding the desolation which prevails, that there are still a remnant who are preferring Jerusalem to their chief joy.

15. Am still made to feel my weakness and insufficiency for every good work: yet frequent are my desires to be directed by a wisdom superior to my own; even that wisdom which comes

from above, and is alone profitable to direct through this state of probation.

19. My mind felt this morning like the barren heath in the wilderness, insensible when good comes ; or, at least, not in a capacity of receiving it. In the afternoon the searching wine was dispensed, yet not wholly unaccompanied with consoling oil ; to my humble admiration, thinking myself unworthy such a favour.

24. A precious baptizing season in our little week-day meeting, in which my soul was enabled to sing of mercy and of judgment.

FOURTH MONTH, 1797.

2. My mind gathered into a sweet quiet soon after I sat down in meeting, which, in a good degree, remained during the sitting, notwithstanding some interruption. The afternoon a painful season, wishing to feel life more than words.

3. Dear Sarah Stephenson much favoured to-day (I thought) in testimony, and upon the whole it was a season of renewal of strength.

4. Accompanied dear Sarah Stephenson and Mary Jefferys to Guildford, in order to attend a burial and our monthly meeting. Sarah Stephenson appeared largely and excellently, and I thought the crook of divine love was once more, in abundant mercy, stretched forth to the wanderers. O, that they would be gathered.

. Have spent this week much alone in tranquility, and have, at times, felt my mind clothed with the incomes of that peace which passeth the understanding of the natural man.

. A time of wading this morning, yet was able to maintain the watch with a good degree of faithfulness, and had to remember an expression of dear Thomas Ross, 'Expect not to rise when the seed lies low;' which I believe the case in this meeting.

. Having my mind unsettled before I went to meeting I fared but poorly there. In the afternoon, going with full purpose of heart to settle in the quiet, and mind my own business, I was favoured with a little of the refreshing waters of that river, which maketh glad the heritage of God.

FIFTH MONTH, 1797.

. I fear this week hitherto has not been so improved as it ought.

. I found the tempter near to-day, on my sitting down at meeting; but, after struggling awhile, was enabled to close my eye, and shut my ears to his false suggestions, and repair to Him who is the healer of breaches and restorer of paths.

. This morning proved a season of sweet communion, though humbled under a sense of my unworthiness to approach perfect Purity.

21. Attended Gracechurch-street meeting both morning and afternoon, which were measurably owned by Him, who is the crown of all our religious assemblies; though I suffered loss for want of more watchfulness in the latter meeting.

24. A precious season this morning at meeting, in which the baptizing virtue of truth was eminently felt to attend the gospel labours of divers of the worthies present.

25. Attended two sittings [of the yearly meeting] and a committee. My mind humbled under a sense of my dwarfishness, seeing the beauty and dignity with which the Lord hath adorned many of my sisters, who have trodden with more unerring feet the path of self-denial, and more faithfully followed him in the way of his requireing.

28. Attended Gracechurch-street meeting morning and afternoon, the latter particularly favoured, through the ministry of divers friends; yet my poor mind so stripped that I could partake but in a very small degree of the good extended: which was humbling.

SIXTH MONTH, 1797.

7. Came home and found my relations well, which I esteem an additional favour to those already received; may I walk worthy thereof.

16. Under a sense of the manifold blessings and benefits conferred upon me, the language of

my soul to-day at meeting was, 'What can I render unto thee, O Lord, for them? and I returned sweetly refreshed, believing his continued regard was still extended towards me; though such an unworthy creature.

22. This week hitherto spent mostly in the service of the poor; and though my mind has not been so inward as it ought, yet the better part has not been wholly neglected.

23. I sat down at meeting this morning in a sweet quiet frame of mind, from which I hoped a good meeting; but felt some obstruction, whether in myself or others I know not, that I could not move forward until near the close; when the sceptre was in gracious condescension extended, and my soul was admitted into the presence of its best beloved, to its humble rejoicing.

25. Had to struggle again this morning a considerable time, before the stone was removed from the well's mouth; yet when that is, through divine assistance, effected, we can acknowledge it is well worth all we can do or suffer for it. In the afternoon my mind was much humbled and contrited, under a fear that I should not hold out to the end; not from any doubt of the sufficiency of a merciful and kind Providence, but from a deep sense of my manifold frailties. I was led to crave preservation from the devourer.

30. Was enabled to turn into the vineyard of my own heart, where I found still much to do; and also to look over what I apprehended the state

of some others, where I found cause of mourning on their account as well as my own.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1797.

3. Our quarterly meeting at Wandsworth, which I thought a season of precious favour, though I was led as into the stripping-room; yet never find I get through the business of the meeting so well, as when unclothed of all self-sufficiency; which was in a good degree the case at this time; being made sensible that I performed it in a strength superior to my own.

7. Our monthly meeting. The meeting for worship rather a low time to my feelings; which was perhaps owing in part to suffering my mind to be disquieted about trifles before I went to it.

14. An humbling stripping time to-day at meeting; wherein my righteousness appeared as filthy rags, and I saw a deficiency I had been guilty of as overseer; which I endeavoured after meeting to rectify, and though in much weakness, felt a degree of peace attend this little discharge of duty.

24. My walk this evening rendered truly delightful, by some unexpected proofs of gratitude in some poor people; yet desired to attribute nothing to the creature, but felt thankful for ability afforded to render any little services to those of that class.

28. After struggling a while to-day at meeting with a lukewarm spirit, was favoured with access to the throne of grace, where my soul was renewedly enamoured with the beauty and excellency of perfect holiness, and led to aspire after it, as the greatest of all attainments.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1797.

9. The spring of life I thought lay low to-day at meeting, that it required labour to get at it; but when so favoured we can acknowledge it an abundant recompense, far, very far, beyond our deserts.

12. Felt the divine presence near me this evening in a solitary walk, which brought every faculty of my soul into sweet quiet, and reverent thankfulness.

16. My soul replenished with heavenly bread to-day at the little week-day meeting; for which favour I desire to be made thankful enough.

27. Sitting down to-day in a good degree of passiveness to the divine will, my vessel was replenished with a little of the wine of the kingdom.

30. Was enabled to say to-day at meeting, from a degree of living experience, "I know that my Redeemer liveth." For ever blessed be His name who is dealing thus bountifully. That he may be pleased mercifully to carry on and perfect his own work, is what my soul craves.

NINTH MONTH, 1797.

2. How are the Lord's mercies renewed every morning ! I was favoured to feel his sustaining arm near me in the morning meeting ; and a comfortable hope attended that he was redeeming from every corruption. O, that I may be preserved from marring his excellent work.

7. I do not know that my actions have been condemnable ; but the state of my mind has seemed little else than weakness and folly.

17. The morning meeting a low season to my own particular. In the afternoon bowed under a sense of weakness and imperfection ; yet enabled to crave help, and a little encouraged in the belief that amidst all, love to the divine excellency had the pre-eminence in my heart.

22. Was favoured to sit, as under my own vine to-day at meeting. Inestimable privilege ! may I ever prize it.

29. Endeavoured to press through the crowd of encumbrances to-day in our little silent meeting, which I found hard work ; yet towards the conclusion my labour was measurably blest.

TENTH MONTH, 1797.

14. My reflections on myself humiliating ;

yet I trust my desires after more stability were and are sincere.

15. Found it not an easy matter to get my mind centred beyond the fluctuating things of this life; yet my labour was not altogether in vain, blessed be the name of the Lord.

17. That the Christian's life is a continual warfare, is often verified in my experience. It seems to me that mine will never cease on this side the grave; yet I sometimes think if I am but enabled so to maintain it as to reach the desired port, all afflictions and trials will seem but as the dust in the balance, compared with the joys of eternity.

22. It appeared to my weak faith and patience like the third watch, ere I could meet with the Beloved of souls, to-day at meeting: and even then but a small manifestation of his being near; yet that was and is ever precious.

25. I sat down to-day at meeting in a lukewarm disposition, with which I had to struggle a considerable time; but the good Shepherd of Israel being near, at length extended help to those who had no might of their own. For ever blessed be his holy name, he was pleased to remove the spirit of heaviness, and clothe with the garment of praise.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1797.

1. I think I can with sincerity say, that I love

to meet the Lord in the way of his judgments, because they have hitherto been mixed with mercy, so that they are sweet to my taste. Thus though it was a season of inquisition, to-day at meeting, yet it was precious to my soul, which aspired after that complete redemption which can alone fit me for the society of the spirits of the just made perfect, and qualify to sing the praises of redeeming love.

5. Though enabled in a good degree to maintain the watch this morning, yet sat in much poverty of spirit, under which I desired to be resigned to the divine will, not doubting but it was most convenient for me. In the forepart of the afternoon I was so unwatchful as to give way to a roving disposition, which brought sorrow and contrition; though I believed weakness and lukewarmness prevailed mournfully over the meeting: yet that was no excuse for me, but ought to have excited to double diligence.

7. On recounting my blessings I am led to believe that I am favoured with both spirituals and temporals beyond thousands. O, my soul, it does indeed highly behove thee frequently to ponder how much thou owest unto thy Lord.

9. Though a season of some conflict to-day at meeting (feeling the tempter near to draw me from my watch); yet witnessing preservation, was enabled, I trust, to perform that worship which is alone acceptable in the sight of God, because it is of his own preparing.

15. Sat under the teachings of the best of Ministers, who verily teacheth as never man taught: even the precious anointing.

28. Our monthly-meeting: in which I was led into a state of mourning over the desolation which prevails not only in the land, but in our highly favoured society.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1797.

1. Sat in our little silent week-day meeting, in a good degree of self-abasement.

14. This week, much devoted to the service of others, mostly the sick and poor; yet have had at seasons to feel my own manifold weaknesses.

17. A little renewal of strength to-day at meeting, yet humbled in the evening under the consideration how far I loitered behind many, in the heavenly race.

24. Still buffeted with weaknesses, and ashamed to appear a fool in the eye of the worldly wise. May strength be graciously afforded to give up to what I believe is required of me; though I doubt not but it will appear to some like straining at a gnat; yet obedience can alone bring peace in small as well as great things.

29. A trying week to my feelings divers ways hitherto; yet methought a little light sprang up to-day at meeting.

30. My state of mind to-day seemed com-

parable to poor Jonah's when his gourd was withered ; but more tranquil in the evening.

31. My strength and faith in the all-sufficiency of God a little renewed, in my silent, and I think I may add humble, waiting before him at meeting. Thus closes the year 1797.

FIRST MONTH, 1798.

1. Attended our quarterly-meeting at Dorking, where my poor mind laboured under so much discouragement that I did not seem in a capacity to receive good if offered ; but it appeared to me a low time every way, though no want of words.

3. Still moving on under much depression, and at times my poor mind seems so overcharged that I think my bodily health will sink under it.

4. A little revived to-day, having been enabled to lean on my heavenly anchor, who can alone command the winds and the waves, and they obey Him.

5. Our monthly-meeting ; in which my confidence in the Lord was sweetly renewed.

12. This week hath passed quietly : I have measurably borne the cross, in which I have found peace. A season of refreshment to-day in our little silent week-day meeting.

19. I sat down in much weakness to-day at meeting ; yet after labouring a while, was graciously permitted access to the fountain of living

waters, whereby my soul was sweetly replenished and encouraged to press forward, through the many hindering things which surround my path.

26. Met, previously to going to meeting, with some vexatious occurrences which too much encumbered my mind, that it was a long time before I could rise above it; yet ere the meeting concluded was enabled to mourn over my weaknesses, and seek help where alone it is to be obtained.

SECOND MONTH, 1798.

2. I believe there were to-day a few rightly gathered in the name and power of Jesus, who was graciously pleased to fulfil his promise of presiding amongst us. Blessed privilege! How lamentable that any should slight it, and be content to feed on husks!

15. My mind having been much outward these several days past, I sat down at meeting in much strippedness, scarcely expecting to be favoured with the overshadowing wing, which however was graciously extended to my humbling admiration; and my soul was led to recount the Lord's mercies, and enabled to offer the sacrifice of praise. O may I walk worthy of such unmerited favours.

23. Attended the meeting at the Workhouse, [Clerkenwell, London], where George Dillwyn and William Savery were, and both appeared

acceptably [in their ministry]; but though favoured with the company of such eminently gifted instruments, if the best of Ministers* had not graciously presided amongst us, it would not have satisfied the minds of some : which was mercifully the case.

THIRD MONTH, 1798.

1. Returned again to our peaceful habitation in health, not only bodily, but I humbly trust through divine preservation in a good degree of spiritual freshness; having often of late felt the sweet descendings of heavenly love, which I have been led to believe was the gracious reward of some little acts of faithfulness. Thus bountifully doth the Lord deal with the meanest of his works.

13. Went to Guildford to see a poor friend near her close; who, though in a suffering state as to body, yet seemed calm and resigned. I was at the week-day meeting, which I had no cause to repent, seeing the necessity of embracing every opportunity of renewing my spiritual strength, by returning often to the fountain and source of all good.

22. This week hath been pretty fully engaged with the company of dear brother and sisters; yet, though surrounded with temporal blessings as on every hand, have been thankful to feel my happi-

* See Heb. viii. 2. "A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle which the Lord pitched, and not man."

ness incomplete unless crowned with that best of blessings which brings no sorrow with it, and which can alone sanctify every dispensation of a bountiful Providence.

29. Quarterly meeting at Alton. I thought it a favoured season, feeling Him to preside amongst us, who remains the crown of our religious assemblies. We had a comfortable sitting in the evening, in which Thomas Scattergood appeared pretty largely in supplication and testimony, and was drawn forth in much gospel love to encourage a state present which seemed sinking under conflict and discouragement.

FOURTH MONTH, 1798.

2. Our quarterly meeting at Guildford. Thomas Scattergood appeared largely in the meeting for worship, indeed he laboured abundantly in much gospel love. Things appeared very low amongst us by the reports brought in from some of our monthly meetings. After dinner, when some of our friends had taken their leave, a precious opportunity occurred, in which Thomas Scattergood appeared in a remarkable manner to individuals; which I earnestly desired might be blessed to them, and not pass away as the morning dew.

3. Our monthly meeting. Humbled afresh, under a sense of my own weaknesses, and un-

worthiness to partake of such unmerited blessings as had of late been showered upon me ; and desired faithfulness and true dedication of heart might be the return. Dear Thomas Scattergood was silent. But before he left us, we had a baptizing season and parted in sweet fellowship one with another. I believe there was scarcely one insensible of the precious influence which spread over us like a mantle.

20. A stripping proving season in our little silent week-day meeting, yet not unprofitable. I hope ever to be thankful to feel the refining hand near for my preservation.

22. In my walk to visit the sick this morning the beauty of the scene around me, and the sense of multiplied blessings awakened my soul to gratitude and praise : yet the morning meeting proved uncommonly dull and stripped of good.

27. Though I long strove with a spirit of lukewarmness, yet at length was graciously admitted to the throne of grace, and had sweet communion with my God. Inestimable favour bestowed on a worm !

29. A query, Art thou nearer the kingdom than when thou first believed ? livingly sprang in my mind, this morning at meeting, and after some searching of heart, I was comforted in the belief that I had made some small progress in the heavenly race ; though still weak and standing in daily need of supplies of strength and faith from Him who is the preserver of his dependant chil-

dren. In the afternoon methought my situation somewhat resembled Mary's of old, when she sat at the feet of Jesus washing them with her tears, and wiping them with the hair of her head. Blessed employment, precious privilege ! I, like her, have had much forgiven. May I also resemble her in loving much.

FIFTH MONTH, 1798.

10. Felt renewed desires arise, for preservation from every snare of an unwearied enemy.

11. Sat down at meeting in a lukewarm state, which prevailed too long ; yet after a while, being humbled under a sense of my faults, was once more in mercy permitted to wash in that fountain which remains to be set open for Jerusalem, &c. to bathe in. Unspeakable favour !

21. Attended the first sitting of the yearly meeting. Thought it a season of renewed favour. My poor mind was bowed in humble gratitude before the Father of mercies, that he had once more permitted me to sit with his children in this large assembly.

24. We had this morning an acceptable visit in the women's meeting from William Savery, &c. who laboured abundantly amongst us, chiefly addressing the youth, using much persuasive language to excite them to build on the ancient foundation, which the righteous have ever built upon,

in every age of the world. He also exhorted them in a particular manner to refrain from reading unprofitable books.

29. Two more sittings to-day, when the business was got through, some weighty testimonies borne, and awful supplication put up to the Father of mercies for the preservation of each other who widely separated in body. The meeting separated under a precious, solemn covering.

SIXTH MONTH, 1798.

3. Sat again in our little meeting, I trust, under a thankful sense of past favours, and laboured according to my small measure therein, in a silent travail for the arising of the well-spring of life.

12. My mind comforted and strengthened in the belief, that love to God and good-will to men were gaining the pre-eminence in my heart, above every other consideration; weak and frail as I am often made sensible it still is. The other part of this week, though I dare not say it has been so much improved as it might possibly have been, yet think has not been spent vainly.

19. Attended our monthly meeting. I felt weak and low, and found it no easy matter to get at the well-spring of life; yet was at length favoured with a little of its arising.

24. A discouraging depressing season this.

ing at meeting. It seemed as though I was
prey to the enemy. The afternoon my hope
with a little revived by feeling the good hand
near for my preservation. What a favour!

This has been a week of no small trial to
feelings; think I have borne the cross as faithfully
as I well could.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1798.

A day of heaviness on account of a beloved
brother who, I have reason to fear, is de-
parting from that simplicity and integrity of heart
which has hitherto characterized him, and from
what we had hoped better things: that he would
prove a standard-bearer in this poor county.
Alas! I am at times dismayed at the prospect,

I see so many falling, as on the right hand
and on the left.

Came to Newbury, on my way to Bristol.
Now that our Redeemer liveth is indeed a
valuable and blessed experience; which I was fa-
voured with this morning. As I sat solitary at the
waiting for the coach, he was pleased to
come in upon my soul with the overshadowing of
life-giving presence, which is more precious
than the increase of corn, wine, or oil. May I
esteem it so.

Attended the week-day meeting [Bristol]
where Sam Savery led in close doctrine to reprove

the hypocrites, which brought me to much searching of heart, lest I should be found amongst that number. He stood up a second time, saying it frequently happened that deeply humbled minds took what did not belong to them, and were ready to query, Lord is it I, who am about to betray thee with more to that effect ; which cheered my drooping soul.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1798.

1. Went with a very large party to cousin George Fisher's to breakfast with William Savery ; and from thence to Pill to see him embark. Before we separated, we had a precious, contriving season together, in which he recounted the Lord's gracious dealings with him, during his visit to the continent, and to this nation ; and said, though he was bound to acknowledge himself a very unprofitable servant, yet he was now at parting enabled to adopt the language, "Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee : " with much more expressive of the peace he felt to crown his labour of love in this land. We parted in near love and fellowship ; and though it was trying to my feelings, yet it was truly consoling to see him so comfortably released from the present field of labour.

7. Rather a low time at meeting ; yet trust the warfare was measurably maintained.

9. Awoke this morning with a sweet and lovely impression, that the Lord's mercy was over all his works, even to me, the meanest of them.

16. Wrote to a beloved brother, who I feared was departing from the simplicity of truth.

17. Returned from meeting as from the washing pool sweetened and refreshed, though I cannot account myself unworthy.

20. Received a gentle correction from the divine hand, which I kissed with submission.

24. Afresh encouraged and animated to press forward in the Christian race, this morning at the silent week-day meeting.

25. Heard some affecting accounts of further declensions of some of the high and wise in our society: enough to dismay such a poor weak creature as myself in the prospect, did I not now that the word of the Lord endureth forever.

31. A deeply humbling season to-day at meeting; in which however my poor tried mind was brought into sweet tranquillity.

NINTH MONTH, 1798.

7. It was a low time to-day at meeting; yet ink resignation and humility were the clothing my mind.

9. Was permitted through adorable condescension, to lean upon the Beloved of souls, this

morning at meeting ; which I esteemed a precious privilege. The evening meeting I thought a dull time.

20. Went to take leave of my kind friends in this place [Bristol.] Was favoured with a precious, cementing opportunity at dear Hannah Stephenson's ; seasonable it was to my mind, faith being at a low ebb.

30. Went to Ryegate in order to attend our quarterly meeting. The covering of my mind this day and for several past may well be compared to sackcloth and ashes : because of the slain of the daughter of the Lord's people.

TENTH MONTH, 1798.

1. Our quarterly meeting. A season of close trial to my mind on various accounts.

13. This life is truly a cup of mixtures. Many bitters have been infused into mine of late ; some of which have been very unpalatable to my taste ; yet I have desired to drink it with resignation ; which I trust I have been enabled to do in a good degree. On the other hand many blessings have also accompanied me, which I desire to be humbly thankful for, well knowing how little I deserve.

17. My drooping mind a little refreshed, by repairing to the well-spring of life ; and renewed desires after preservation, from the various snares

hich surround my path, were raised to Him who alone knows them, and how to sustain and carry through.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1798. a

4. An unsubjected will prevented my access to the Fountain of sure mercies this morning : to my shame I record it. In the afternoon wrestled hard to have it brought into the state of passive clay, which I was favoured in a good degree to experience; and thankful was I, to feel every power and faculty of the soul brought into subjection, and prostrated at the feet of a merciful Saviour.

7. I trust, I still love above all things to sit at the feet of a crucified Saviour. Blessed name ! How lightly esteemed at this day, yea, set at nought, and thy divinity denied ! Mournful truths ! I believe with my whole heart, that there is no other name under heaven by which mankind can be saved.

9. Sat up last night with a neighbour ; yet did not feel easy to stay from meeting, which proved a sweet, solacing season, so that I could say, it was good for me to be there : ever desiring to esteem the loving-kindness of the Lord the greatest of all blessings.

11. Mourning for myself and others has been much the portion of this day ; yet got off my

watch too soon, both in the morning and afternoon meeting.

22. Received comfortable intelligence respecting a relation having applied for admission into the society, on the ground of conviction. Truly pleasant it is, to hear some are gathering home to the true fold; while so many are deviating and wandering as sheep without a shepherd, and endeavouring to draw others after them.

30. Though I did not maintain the watch so steadily as I ought to have done, to-day at meeting; yet while my mind was properly centred, I was favoured with the precious incomes of life and love: a favour I thought myself unworthy of.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1798.

4. Our monthly meeting at Guildford. My mind bowed in the meeting for worship, under a renewed sense of the omnipotence and omnipresence of God.

14. A day of inquietude and weakness, so that I could not get my mind properly stayed at meeting.

16. My dwelling was much in the valley, to-day at meeting; and through adorable goodness was favoured to feel the dew rest upon my branches.

31. Thus ends the year 1798. A consciousness of manifold weaknesses attends me; yet

I feel humbly thankful that I am still preserved
alive.

FIRST MONTH, 1799.

3. This has been a week of some trial of faith ; yet think I have been enabled to bear the cross with some degree of faithfulness.

11. After a time of conflict to-day at meeting I was enabled to rise above a wrong disposition, and approach Him who is the health of my countenance ; before whom my soul bowed in deep prostration and deep abasement of self.

16. My mind has been too much outward for several days past, O, for a closer walk with God.

19. Hastened to Wanborough, dear ——— being thought near his end. I found an afflicted house ; yet was favoured to feel my mind preserved in much tranquillity.

28. What a severe scene has again taken place ! We had flattered ourselves the bitterness of death was passed, when dear ——— was again plunged as it were to the very gates of it. The doctors give no hopes : one of the poor lads dead. How awful are the approaches of such a messenger !

30. ——— again reviving ; and hope once more cheers this dwelling ; though we are almost afraid to entertain so welcome a guest.

SECOND MONTH, 1799.

15. Came to Godalming. Attended our week-day meeting, which proved a refreshing season to my poor mind, which I thought myself unworthy of. It was pleasant to sit again with my friends after such an absence : indeed it was a season of mutual rejoicing. I was thankful to see them again in health, and they expressed much gladness at seeing me preserved from the contagion, to which I have been exposed. I felt my own unworthiness of such marks of tender regard.

THIRD MONTH, 1799.

1. ——— continues mending. I went to our monthly meeting, where I sat under an humbling sense of my weakness, and inability for every good word and work, both in the meeting for worship and discipline ; yet felt a degree of heavenly sweetness accompany this frame of mind ; which led me to hope it was not altogether unacceptable to the Father of mercies.

3. Left my dear friends at Wanborough. Attended both meetings, which were trying seasons to me, for want of more watchfulness on my part.

8. The accoutrement of a true Christian was brought with freshness to my mind soon after I sat down in meeting ; and fervent desires raised

after so excellent an attainment, that I might thereby be enabled to withstand the varied assaults of an unwearied enemy. It was a strengthening season to my poor mind.

15. A season of sweet solace in our little week-day meeting. I could not but lament that others should miss so great a privilege by letting trifling things keep them at home, or, if at meeting, suffering a lukewarm disposition to deprive them of this best of blessings, communion with their God.

23. The rest of this week mostly spent in the service of others, and not wholly unprofitably, I trust.

29. My tried mind instructed in my silent sitting to-day at meeting; and renewedly led to number my blessings, and see how much I owed unto the Lord.

FOURTH MONTH, 1799.

1. Our quarterly meeting. I thought the meeting for worship a season of renewed favour to our youth in particular. The meeting for discipline was very trying to my feelings from various causes.

4. Our friends Mary Watson, Mary Alexander, and John Kirkham sat with us this morning. It proved a strengthening season to the drooping minds of some. "Blessed are they that

"mourn," was the encouraging language. Surely we have abundant cause of mourning, because of the increasing desolation in our society: the prospect whereof is ready to dismay the feeble travelers Sion-ward.

8. A precious, contriting season this morning, previous to our beloved friends leaving us: in which the dear young folks were affectionately encouraged to follow on to know the Lord. Dear W. T. was particularly addressed, our friends believing his tender mind had been precious visited. How did all that was within me covet that the good seed which, I did believe, had been sown in the hearts of some of them might be cherished, and bring forth in due season fruits to the praise of the great and good Husbandman.

19. Heaviness of spirit has been my portion this day, discouragements of various kinds pressing hard upon me.

21. A day of mourning because of the desolation in our Sion, when those that should have been standard-bearers desert a cause so precious.

FIFTH MONTH, 1799.

4. After a season of conflict, my will was once more reduced, and I was enabled to adopt the language of, Not my will, O Lord, but thine be done.

5. Shamefully lukewarm this morning at meeting. In the afternoon a little strength was given to labour, which I think I did according to my small measure.

10. My mind hath enjoyed for several days past a sweet tranquillity, to which it has of late been much a stranger. I feel, I trust, humbly thankful for this favour, well knowing I cannot attain to it of myself.

SIXTH MONTH, 1799.

5. Renewed desires after preservation, feeling myself much stripped of the sensible presence of Him, who is I trust the beloved of my soul.

6. My dear brother and sister Waring left us, which was no small trial to our feelings. We parted, I believe, in best love, and desires for each other's preservation.

7. Favoured in our little silent gathering with sweet access to the inexhaustible Source of all good. My heart overflowed with gratitude for blessings ancient and new.

9. Baptized afresh into a deep sense of my own nothingness; and the need I stand in of renewed supplies of strength; which I earnestly craved, that I might walk uprightly in humility and fear all my days.

11. Went to Guildford to meet dear Deborah

~~How~~ ~~the~~ ~~Recent~~ ~~Young~~. Was not a little disappointed in finding they had passed us by. We wait the few minutes, where after a dipping ~~down~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~ ~~refreshed~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~renewed~~ ~~impression~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~act~~ ~~over~~. How unworthy do I feel ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~renewed~~ ~~impression~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~act~~ ~~over~~!

10. The ~~young~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~at~~ ~~Goldsbond~~. * In the ~~meeting~~ ~~was~~ ~~renewed~~ ~~with~~ ~~ability~~ ~~to~~ ~~create~~ ~~deep~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~...~~ ~~though~~ ~~we~~ ~~set~~ ~~down~~ ~~a~~ ~~poor~~ ~~summary~~ ~~notes~~ ~~and~~ ~~there~~ ~~is~~ ~~hard~~ ~~work~~ ~~to~~ ~~keep~~ ~~it~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~work~~.

11. ~~How~~ ~~a~~ ~~fine~~ ~~manuscript~~, written by a ~~friend~~ ~~a~~ ~~woman~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~end~~ ~~of~~ ~~her~~ ~~life~~. Was humbled under the ~~consideration~~ ~~of~~ ~~her~~ ~~faithfulness~~ ~~in~~ ~~following~~ ~~a~~ ~~causation~~ ~~farther~~ ~~while~~ ~~I~~ ~~with~~ ~~superior~~ ~~advantage~~ ~~than~~ ~~she~~ ~~a~~ ~~babe~~, I often feel ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~work~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~work~~.

12. My work ~~now~~ ~~being~~ ~~so~~ ~~much~~ ~~off~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~ground~~ ~~I~~ ~~was~~ ~~laden~~ ~~with~~ ~~a~~ ~~temptation~~. Remorse ~~and~~ ~~shame~~.

13. ~~Rejoiced~~ ~~my~~ ~~work~~ ~~and~~ ~~renewed~~ ~~be-~~ ~~lieved~~ ~~ing~~ ~~ing~~ ~~ness~~ ~~and~~ ~~future~~ ~~preservation~~.

14. A day of ~~some~~ ~~conflict~~ ~~of~~ ~~spirit~~.

15. Went to Warrisworth to our quarterly meeting. The morning meeting, I thought a favoured season: the afternoon heavy and laborious; though towards the close a little life arose. A committee from the yearly meeting attended; a choice little band.

* On which day Goldsbond meeting is suspended.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1799.

1. Afresh did the crook of divine love seem extended towards a backsliding generation, in adorable mercy and condescension. Our dear friends laboured amongst us in much love; and I thought a good degree of harmony prevailed, and I was comforted in observing much more openness than I expected in the visited; so that I think the committee had an opportunity of seeing pretty clearly the low, very low state of things amongst us.

5. The above-mentioned committee came here [Godalming] last evening. My soul renewedly humbled under the consideration of the continued kindness of a gracious God, in thus sending his faithful servants and hand-maidens to labour amongst us; which was strengthening to the feeble minds of some of us. Spent the evening at brother Kidd's. The dear young folks were afresh invited to come, taste, and see for themselves how good the Lord is.

6. Our dear friends left us. Samuel Alexander, John Abbott, and Hannah Wigham had a sitting with us just before we parted; which proved a precious opportunity, in which our souls were nearly united in the heavenly fellowship, and sweetly refreshed together.

7. Renewedly convinced that it would not suffice the soul to feed on the manna gathered

yesterday ; but, that it must be daily waited for, if we would indeed witness being nourished up unto everlasting life.

14. A renewed call to faithfulness this morning at our silent meeting : the afternoon dull and heavy in the forepart ; but towards the close life arose into a good degree of dominion.

17. Dear uncle Kidd spent the day with us ; the first visit he has paid I believe for near a twelvemonth. His quiet, peaceful frame of mind was instructive and encouraging.

20. The rest of this week hath passed serenely away ; I would hope not wholly unimproved. How many blessings have I to be thankful for !

21. A degree of favour attended both meetings, and I trust a degree of right exercise was for a season maintained in each of them ; but think I did not keep so faithfully on my watch as I should have done, particularly in the evening.

25. Have seemed left to myself, and as a prey to the cruel enemy for several days past ; yet have been enabled at times to bemoan my condition, being ready to conclude there are few if any more propense to evil : humbling consideration indeed !

26. Sat down at meeting this morning under the belief that I was altogether unworthy of divine regard, or of approaching Him who is perfect Purity ; yet after sitting a while in this reduced state before him, he was pleased in wondrous love and mercy to stretch forth the sceptre of his love, and once more permit me to praise his holy name, who is eternally worthy.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1799.

2. Seemed uncommonly lukewarm and indifferent on sitting down at meeting, to which I too much yielded for a while; but after some struggle, was favoured with near access to the inexhaustible Source of all good.

6. Have been led to ponder on the depravity of the human heart, and particularly of my own; believing few if any have more propensity to evil; also led to call to mind the gracious dealings of a merciful, long-suffering God, who hath sustained me and preserved me unto this very hour. O, that he would also be pleased to give additional stability, that I may be enabled to walk before him with a perfect heart.

9. A time of searching of heart to-day at meeting, a profitable employ! I think I love to bring my deeds to the light, and feel all the evil brought into judgment, and sit under the purifying operations of the Spirit of truth: O, may I be careful to keep my garments from defilement.

15. Brother Tothill came, and brought with him a little good tidings respecting the labours of David Sands.

18. Our general meeting at Guildford. My mind measurably gathered to the true centre, in the morning. In the afternoon, I thought, we sat down a poor little company. The poor vol-

dier* was present, which brought an awful fear over me, lest he should be turned aside by observing unwatchfulness and a lukewarm disposition prevail; and the prayer and exercise of my heart was that we might all, both he and *we*, be preserved in our different allotments and found faithful therein.

25. My mind much tossed this morning at meeting: the way proved deeply humbling and instructive.

30. Was renewedly desirous that my dwelling might ever be in the low vale of humility, where the dew resteth.

NINTH MONTH, 1799.

6. A day of profitable humiliation, I trust. desire to prize every dispensation that tends to reduce self, however hard to the natural part.

7. Still learning the hard lesson of suffering patiently.

11. Many are the cogitations of my poor mind, sometimes unprofitable: at others pure desires after more stability and holy circumspection in thought, word, and deed, prevail.

15. Could set up my Ebenezer and say, Hitherto hath the Lord helped me. For ever blessed be his name! In the afternoon the dreadful end of the

* A soldier quartered at Guildford, who frequented the meetings of friends, and appeared under conviction.

pocrite impressed my mind, with strong desires at I might be preserved from it.

20. Rather a low time at meeting this morning, yet have felt a comfortable degree of quiet for several days past.

22. A time of conflict this morning, in which hope the enemy gained but little advantage. The forenoon proved, contrary to expectation, a refreshing season.

27. Gave way to a roving disposition the forenoon of the meeting, which produced shame and remorse, and the language of the poor publican, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

29. Lowliness and fear were in a good degree the companions of my mind this day.

TENTH MONTH, 1799.

7. Went to Ryegate to our quarterly meeting. I think the meetings were favoured seasons, though cause of discouragement still remains. The committee (John Abbott excepted) were here, also Phebe Speakman and companion. Met with an accident on our return, but were preserved from harm: which I esteemed a favour.

11. A time of sweet solace this morning at meeting. My soul panted after the refreshing streams of Shiloh; and was abundantly replenished. Unspeakable mercy!

17. Phebe Speakman and Mary Townsend

left us: a day of no small trial to my feeling. Seeing the depression the said friends were under M. T. wishing to return home, and P. S. unwilling to detain her, I thought myself called upon to offer to accompany the latter for a few weeks as a servant. The sacrifice is offered, whether it will be accepted is yet uncertain.

20. Was renewedly desirous that I might be preserved in a single dependance on the Lord in my approaching journey, for preservation every way, and have no confidence in the flesh; believing that those who trust in the Lord shall never be confounded.

24. Parted with my beloved connexions, which was trying; yet felt peaceful, which induces me to believe that I am in my right place. Reached Chichester this evening, where I met with dear P. S. who appeared glad to see me.

26. Left our kind friends at Chichester, and reached Alton in the evening.

27. Attended both meetings, which were measurably favoured with the descendings of heavenly dew. I thought P. S. appeared excellently.

28. Parted with my dear sister, and came to Basingstoke. Was desirous that I might be preserved in humility and fear; and that my deportment might not in any degree disgrace the cause, dear P. S. is engaged so earnestly to promote.

30. Was at the week-day meeting at Whitchurch, a little company indeed; yet methought the crook of divine love was afresh extended in

order to gather the outcasts of Israel and the dispersed of Judah.

31. Attended the week-day meeting at Andover, which was to my feelings a preciousy favoured season. May it prove so to some who were present, and not pass away like the early dew. I thought Phebe eminently favoured to divide the word aright.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1799.

4. Came to Ringwood, where my mind was dipped into a low spot, from some discouraging circumstances. Was at the week-day meeting, where I think I was renewedly enabled to offer up my own will, desiring the Lord's might be done.

6. Attended the week-day meeting at Pool, a season to be remembered by me, for the fresh descendings of heavenly dew. A laborious season to dear Phebe, who was led in a close line to rouse the lukewarm. Had a sweet little opportunity in a friend's family in the evening. Phebe finding we could not go to Guernsey, but in an armed vessel, felt her mind unexpectedly released from the voyage; which was a great relief to my poor mind.

15. Came to Sherborne. Met unexpectedly and pleasantly with John Wigham and John Abbott, who were on their way to Guernsey. Here we got a fresh dip, respecting going thither. Phebe had a meeting at the above-mentioned

place: a precious season to my mind during the silent part of it.

19. Went to Somerton; dear Phebe laboured abundantly amongst the little flock here.

21. Came to Bristol, where I had the satisfaction of meeting my beloved connexions in health, and my dear sister better than I had expected; which I esteemed a great favour added to the many, the very many received in my late journey; the chief of which I reckon the Lord's condescending goodness in owning and refreshing my spirit in every meeting I sat in.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1799.

8. Sat in a low spot this morning at meeting, under an humbling sense of my unworthiness to approach perfect Goodness; yet was favoured to feel the healing waters administered. In the evening shamefully unwatchful: poor unstable creature!

9. Parted with my endeared friend Phebe Speakman, which was no small trial to my feelings.

11. Attended the quarterly meeting at Bridgewater. I think the meetings were favoured seasons, but I did not derive so much benefit from them as I might have done, had I kept more steadily on the watch. David Sands gave us much of his company at the inn, and appeared several times acceptably, and once remarkably.

13. I wrestled to-day at meeting as in the

it season, and my endeavours were not altogether unblest.

8. My mind hath been much tried for some past, yet this hath been its humble language, I will not drink of the cup that thou hastest me; though its mixture be wormwood and gall?

10. Some degree of sweetness and resignation.

2. A precious season to my poor soul, being graciously permitted to lean upon its beloved.

4. A trying day in taking leave of some near relations and dear friends at Bristol. A contriving season at dear Hannah Stephenson's. We parted under a precious covering and near sympathy.

7. Came home. Found dear uncle Kidd in a very weak state, but better than I expected.

11. Thus another year is passed away; in which I have, I trust, endured some conflict with a good degree of resignation, yet a sense of manifold infirmities is still my companion. O He who hath hitherto been my Rock and Shield be graciously pleased to preserve from falling, and enable me to follow him, though in a crucifying path.

FIRST MONTH, 1800.

3. Our Monthly meeting; which I thought a very precious season. Afresh pained at the increasing separation of a beloved brother from the true foundation, as I believe.

8. Our quarterly meeting at Esher. Mourning and heaviness of spirit were much the clothing of my mind, the forepart of the meeting; yet afterwards a little encouraged by the animating testimony of John Wigham, under a belief that a renewed visitation was extended to a backsliding generation. How excellently did he point out the way to life, and the many stratagems of an unwearied enemy to lead from it!

14. Some disappointments attending, I have felt a disposition bordering on repining; to which at times I have too much yielded; at others, have striven against it.

16. Have felt renewedly, pure desires begotten in my heart after a total resignation of my will to the Lord's; which I esteem a favour from his bountiful hand.

17. Was enabled this morning at meeting to cast down every crown at the footstool of a merciful Saviour: and renewedly to crave preservation and conformity to his will: which he alone can produce.

19. Again struggled after resignation, and was enabled to repose all my cares on a merciful Providence; who careth for the ravens, and who knows best what to dispense to the workmanship of his holy hand.

22. My mind hath enjoyed a good degree of quiet and resignation for several days past.

24. Saw into the beauty and excellency of walking by faith. O this divine anchor to the

! Without its support how often should I have
ted by the way!

SECOND MONTH, 1800.

. Am fearful my offerings were not sufficient-
mixed with creaturely zeal; although I think
desires were sincere that they might be so.

This morning had renewedly to number my
sings, and see how much I owed unto the Lord.
The afternoon meeting the enemy threw discour-
agements like a cloud over my mind: which caused
more conflict.

1. In my solitary walk to visit the poor, the
mess of the angel to Cornelius, "Thy prayers
and thine alms are come up for a memorial before
God," sweetly impressed my mind; not that I
viewed it applicable to myself, well knowing how
improperly I perform my duty in these respects, as
as others; yet it brought me into contrition
and a humble resigned frame of mind.

2. My beloved uncle Kidd appears hastening
me to the solemn close, crowned with sweet
peace. He said to-day, all would be well; he never
before had such a prospect of it; he thought he
saw the angels waiting to receive him.

3. Still drawing nearer to his everlasting
glorification. We thought him going this evening,
he revived again and said he was going to leave
this troublesome world. A truth we could feelingly
subscribe to.

THIRD MONTH, 1800.

7. A time of wrestling to-day at meeting; found it hard work to get my mind centred.

9. Went to meeting under depressing sensations on account of the increasing deviation of a beloved friend; yet have thankfully to acknowledge my faith in the divine all-sufficiency was renewed by the fresh extensions of heavenly love.

10. As unexpected as pleasant was the company of dear Thomas Colley, who came this afternoon and had a public meeting in the evening: in which he laboured abundantly to gather the people home to Christ the true foundation; inviting them to buy milk and wine without money and without price. These words to me appeared fitly spoken, comparable to apples of gold in pictures of silver.

11. Accompanied Thomas Colley to Guildford, and attended the week-day meeting. He was again led forth to invite the strayed sheep to the true fold, believing there were present who had been brought out of Egypt; but because of unbelief had loitered long in the wilderness. To these he believed the call was extended, Come out of the wilderness; thou hast compassed this mountain long enough: adding, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" A public meeting in the evening, owned I think by the Master of our assemblies.

15. My revered uncle Kidd quietly departed this life about twenty minutes past ten o'clock this

ning. Peaceful was his close; may my latter be like his.

3. Many friends came to attend the burial dear uncle Kidd, so that the remains were honorably attended, and borne to the grave by his aids who had long known his worth. I thought forepart of the meeting covered with solemnity.

7. Calm and peaceful, and I trust humbly thankful for unmerited blessings.

10. My strength renewed in the all-sufficiency of him, under the shadow of whose wing I ever rely to put my trust.

FOURTH MONTH, 1800.

1. Our quarterly meeting. The meeting for worship an exercising time, yet owned by him, remains to be the crown of our religious assemblies.

3. I was enabled to get through the business of the meeting with some degree of satisfaction to self, and I would hope to that of my friends. I ever acknowledge with thankfulness whence help cometh, well knowing that I can do nothing without of myself.

5. Think I have been profitably employed most of this week as to action. I wish I could add my hand had been equally so; but fear that is not the

7. My feelings have been uncommonly trying several days past. The Lord alone knows the dictates of a weak heart.

11. Once more, after a severe struggle, I was enabled to surrender my will, and all that belongs to me, into the hands of a merciful Creator: well knowing that he will order all things aright and eventually for my good; although at times faith may be at so low an ebb, I may not be able to see it.

13. Repaired as to the washing-pool, from which I returned sweetly refreshed.

15. Came to London in order to assist A. Newman in nursing her two infants who are dangerously ill. Found them removed to Hampstead. An affecting scene presented, sweet delicate Mary stretched on her cot, little more than a corpse; and Thomas almost as ill on a bed near.

23. The sweet lambs still living, but the physicians give no hopes of their recovery. How inscrutable to us short-sighted mortals are the ways of that wisdom which cannot err.

30. Dear Thomas breathed his last about half past six o'clock this morning without a struggle. What a merciful release from pain and sorrow; while his darling sister is left to struggle a while longer; and her sufferings are a considerable addition to the grief of their afflicted parents; who however are supported to admiration.

FIFTH MONTH, 1800.

8. Was at the week-day meeting at Chelmsford; and though I had nothing to boast of, yet have to

acknowledge, that my mind was preserved in a degree of peaceful quiet.

12. Came to Stansted to the peaceful habitation of William Grover and wife.

13. Attended their week-day meeting, which proved a sweetly refreshing season to my mind.

[Here some pages were cut out of the original.]

SIXTH MONTH, 1800.

2. Came home after attending the yearly meeting, which on the whole was I think eminently favoured with the overshadowing of heavenly love and life, of which my mind was permitted at seasons to partake; though I consider myself altogether unworthy such a mark of divine regard; yet at others my faith was tried as to an hair's-breadth, and it seemed as if the enemy would have been permitted to have destroyed every good resolution. The waves indeed rose high, but the Lord in matchless mercy rebuked them, or else they had gone over my head.

6. A precious baptizing season in our little week-day meeting, in which my faith was renewed in the all-sufficiency of God, and my soul was brought into an humble acquiescence to his will.

8. Once more was I permitted to lean as upon the breast of the Beloved of souls, and cast all my cares upon him; craving preservation, and that I might be enabled to walk before him with a perfect heart.

10. Affecting intelligence indeed that defection of principle hath appeared; surely it is a time for lamentation.

12. Much in the valley; surely the proper allotments for all concerned for the precious cause of truth.

15. Think my mind was in a good degree profitably exercised both in the morning and afternoon meetings.

17. A degree of peaceful serenity hath been much the covering of my mind this day; which hath excited thankfulness.

22. This day and yesterday have been seasons of conflict. Discouragements like a cloud have come over my poor mind. I think I should have fainted had not the Lord sustained me.

24. More discouraging circumstances! Adverse winds seem to blow from all quarters. May I be preserved in humility and patience.

29. Favoured with near access to the Fountain of light and life. Blessed privilege! May I make suitable returns.

30. Went to Wandsworth, under very depressed feelings, hearing some were likely to attend our quarterly meeting, who were opposed to the truth, as it is in Jesus.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1800.

1. I could compare our sitting down to-day at

meeting to nothing short of two armies in battle array. In great abasedness of soul did a remnant approach the Lord, beseeching that he would arise for the sake of his oppressed seed, and surely I thought he fought for us; and marvellous it was in the eyes of some of us, who rendered the praise where it was alone due.

10. The last few days rather unsettled, having been in daily expectation of going from home, and as often disappointed, yet the better part not wholly neglected, I trust.

11. My spiritual strength and confidence renewed to-day in our little silent gathering. How often do I lament that so few come up to these solemn feasts, for want of a right exercise of mind and attention to the gift within themselves. Came to Alton.

13. Dear Elizabeth Coggeshall and Abigail Pim came. A degree of divine favour attended both meetings; though the evening meeting was heavy towards the conclusion.

19. My mind sweetly consoled, in the belief that it has of late been a time of increasing watchfulness, and I would hope of some little growth.

22. Rather a laborious meeting for want of united exercise of spirit. Oh! what avails our presenting our bodies, if our hearts are wandering? Surely God will not be mocked. Such as we sow, such shall we reap: an awful consideration! May it excite to greater diligence.

27. The enemy of all good desires was busy this morning at meeting, in endeavouring to draw my mind from its proper centre; yet trust he did not gain much advantage over me. I went in the evening under discouragement, but it proved, contrary to my expectation, a sweetly refreshing season, feeling the dew of heaven rest upon my branches. Thus bountiful is God to the workmanship of his hand.

30. A trying meeting, in part owing to the extreme heat of the weather. I waited long without obtaining; but before the meeting closed, the Lord, in great condescension, satisfied my soul with his life-giving presence.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1800.

1. A day of trial; yet I think resignation was in good degree attained to: for which I was thankful, well knowing it is not at my command.

3. Sat at Wisdom's gate, where my soul was secretly and sweetly instructed.

6. Favoured with near access to that river the streams whereof make glad the whole heritage of God. Returned from meeting sweetly refreshed.

8. A degree of sweet resignation to suffer whatever the Lord should see meet to dispense to his unworthy creature, was the covering of my spirit this day.

17. The prayer of Agur was adopted by me to-day. Both morning and evening were precious seasons to my waiting soul.

23. The last three days have been wholly occupied in attending the dying bed of cousin Agnes Blose[of Alton], who had a long conflict; which was affecting to our affectionate feelings: yet we had the consoling hope that the better part was safely centred beyond the reach of the enemy; and that she was not sensible of bodily suffering. She breathed her last about four o'clock this morning, and her wearied spirit I doubt not is at rest. I trust profitably humbled under a sense of some weaknesses I fell into through unwatchfulness.

27. Love to God and good-will to men have been much the disposition of my heart for several days past.

NINTH MONTH, 1800.

4. Oh this warfare! When will it be accomplished? May it be faithfully maintained on my part, is my sincere desire; yet without divine assistance I know I am unequal, and therefore humbly crave its continuance: for surely the Lord hath hitherto helped me, else I had long ago perished.

10 Met with a trying circumstance before I went to meeting this morning, which so unsettled my mind that I reaped but little advantage from going. John Newton and his niece dined with us. He appeared a tender spirited man, which is ever

beautiful in old age. He gave us some interesting information respecting his friend Cowper; whom he could not mention without tears.

13. Came home and found my dear relations well, which I esteem a favour.

17. A large number of the labouring poor assembled together, to the number of one hundred, on account of the high price of provisions; but were prevailed upon to disperse without doing any mischief, as they had threatened. It was an awful season, but my mind was mercifully preserved calm, trusting in Him, who, I knew, could set bounds to the wrath of man. Without this unshaken confidence where could we flee for succour, in the time of conflict and trial.

21. I studied to be quiet and mind my own business, but found it hard work to keep in this frame of mind.

23. Attended our monthly meeting; a humbling season to my mind. Drank tea with a beloved friend, on whose account I felt more than I can express. O, that he may yet be brought back to the true fold, was and is, the ardent desire of my soul!

27. Felt something of a real hunger after the bread of life.

28. Was desirous of hungering and thirsting patiently to-day at meeting; believing it was not a season of rejoicing.

TENTH MONTH, 1800.

1. Attended our quarterly meeting at Ryegate, where I trust I was enabled to bear my portion of suffering without murmuring. It was in truth a low time.

3. My spiritual strength measurably renewed.

16. "Be still and know that I am God," sweetly impressed my mind in the morning; an injunction I was desirous of obeying.

19. The week-day meeting. Had to remember the Lord's gracious dealings with me from my youth, and see how vast my debt is to the Lord.

23. Had to trace back some painful steps I have taken in the crucifying path; when my will was once more reduced, yea all that was within me bowed at the name of Jesus, and I had renewedly to feel something of adoption rest upon me: an experience more precious than rubies!

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1800.

2. Had to go again into the stripping-room, and renewedly to acknowledge that in me, as a creature, dwelleth no good thing.

7. My dwelling hath been much in the valley for several days past; and at times have been favoured to feel something of the dew rest upon me, in this solitary situation.

9. An unusual sadness, hath been the covering

of my mind of late. What it portends I know not; but have desired to leave all to the disposal of that wisdom which cannot err.

10. How often do I think my will slain; and that I desire nothing but the will of God! Yet again and again do I find a disposition that would be choosing and carving for itself. Oh, this continued warfare! When will it be accomplished, and my wearied spirit find rest?

14. Some little time ago, I was favoured with the sustaining belief that I was encreasing in holy stability, and in some degree in the saving knowledge of God; but of late I have seemed so left to a sense of my own weakness and insufficiency, that I have been ready to fear at times I should become a prey to the devourer.

16. A little of the hidden manna in great mercy dispensed to my hungry soul, in my silent waiting to-day at meeting.

19. More tranquil and comfortable; which I esteem an unmerited favour bestowed upon a worm.

21. Favoured with some degree of heavenly communion in my silent waiting to-day at meeting. Inestimable privilege! May I ever prize it, as it deserves.

23. My state of mind to-day at meeting much resembled that of the poor publican. I was impressed with so deep a sense of my infirmities, that I thought myself unworthy to hold communion with him who is perfect purity.

29. This week hath passed peacefully away, and I would hope not wholly unimproved.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1800.

2. Our monthly meeting, a day of exercise and mourning to me, from the increasing deviation of some, from whom we had hoped better things.

5. Was enabled to discharge my duty as an overseer, though in a cross to my own will.

12. Sat in a good degree of nothingness to-day at meeting.

14. Was favoured with an extraordinary degree of divine favour, in my silent waiting this morning. Methought it somewhat resembled the morning stars singing together for joy. I thought before I left the meeting, it was preparatory to some fresh trial, and so it proved; for soon after I met with a circumstance which severely wounded my best life; so that heaviness of heart was my portion the rest of the day.

15. Think I have faithfully discharged my duty towards a beloved friend; yet feel much tried and borne down with grief.

19. Still desirous that my dwelling may be in the valley; and sometimes think how light the afflictions of time will appear, if in the end I am but favoured to reach the haven of rest: where all tears will be wiped away, and sighing and sorrow cease.

20. My feelings afresh wounded.

21. My faith and confidence renewed in the all-sufficiency of God. Without this divine anchor, how often should I have fainted by the way.

23. O, that I may be enabled to walk more in the path of simplicity and self-renunciation.

24. A day of renewed exercise and trial of faith and patience.

29. Unpleasant intelligence from various quarters. O, to keep quiet and patient under the trials of the day.

30. Much depressed. And now I am come another year nearer the end of this probationary state: which feels rather pleasant, having little to expect in this life but a succession of trial, every pleasant picture being stained in view, doubtless for wise and good purposes. O, that the Lord who hath hitherto been my helper, my sun and my shield, may be still pleased to preserve me in a state of humble daily dependance upon him, resigning all into his holy hand.

FIRST MONTH, 1801.

1. Felt more tranquil and calm than for several days past.

2. Think I missed my way to-day, which was a source of humiliation. O, to be enabled to make straight steps to my feet.

6. Attended the quarterly-meeting at Esher. We sat down a poor company, and I felt much dis-

couraged ; yet I thought truth arose into some degree of dominion : which I esteemed an unmerited favour.

16. This week hath mostly been devoted to the service of others ; in which I hope I have borne the cross, with some degree of faithfulness.

18. My mind much encumbered, so that I fear instead of being benefited by going to meeting, I incurred condemnation.

24. Often am I ready to adopt the words of the poet, " O, for a lodge in some vast wilderness," &c.

25. The petition of my heart this day has been that the Lord would be pleased to cut the thread of my life, rather than suffer me to live separated from him.

30. Favoured with some access to the " fountain opened to the house of David, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem." Inestimable privilege !

SECOND MONTH, 1801.

3. Our monthly meeting, where though I had to mourn over the desolation of our Zion ; yet was also favoured with a renewed evidence that my Redeemer liveth : an experience more precious than the increase of corn, wine and oil.

8. Methought I felt something like a renewed call to holiness, and more unreserved dedication of

heart, to which I desired to yield. In the afternoon meeting shamefully lukewarm.

19. Jacob Bell had a meeting with us. He was dipped into the low state of things amongst us, and led to warm the rebellious.

26. Much indisposed most of this week : yet my mind has centered far too much in earthly things, which at seasons have led me to mourn over my state, and crave deliverance.

THIRD MONTH, 1801.

6. Though poor and weak, and altogether unworthy, the Lord in great condescension contrited my spirit before him, and sweetly refreshed it.

8. Felt so stripped and destitute of good, that I had little more to offer than a sigh and a tear.

13. Though I thought I went to meeting to-day in a proper frame of mind, yet felt little but leanness and poverty.

18. Being free from inquietudes of late, my mind has been uncommonly prone to centre in outward comforts ; yet at times I have felt desirous of watching over myself with a godly jealousy.

22. Was renewedly desirous of being redeemed from a groveling disposition ; and that my affections might be fixed on the alone substantial good.

26. Felt something of that peace which the world can neither give nor wholly destroy : a blessing far above rubies.

29. Think I sat in a good degree of nothingness to-day at meeting.

31. Attended our monthly meeting at Guildford, though poorly in health, in which, I think, I laboured according to my small measure.

FOURTH MONTH, 1801.

4. Our dear friends, Mary Sweat and Charity Cook, from America, came in very unexpectedly; which I esteemed a favour.

5. A precious season in the morning, in which Mary Sweat, Charity Cook and Deborah Moline appeared encouragingly. A public meeting in the evening which I thought a favoured one, the people uncommonly still and attentive.

6. Accompanied our dear friends to Guildford, where we had a public meeting. Mary Sweat particularly addressed a tried state.

7. Our quarterly meeting, in which my spirit was contrited under a sense of my own insufficiency for every good word and work; yet was enabled to get pretty comfortably through the business, I hope, to the satisfaction of my friends.

26. Still poorly in health, though my spiritual strength was measurably renewed in the morning meeting: the evening meeting inexpressibly trying.

FIFTH MONTH, 1801.

3. Was renewedly convinced that it would not do to feed upon yesterday's manna, and I desired not to eat the bread of idleness.

4. Took a sweet meditative walk this evening.

9. Turned over some of the past leaves of my life, and numbered part of the many blessings bestowed upon me, by a merciful and bountiful Creator. O my soul, how much owest thou? May this be thy frequent inquiry.

10. Had this morning renewedly to set up my Ebenezer, and say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped me." "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God," was the watchword as I sat down in the afternoon, but I lost ground, and gave way to a roving disposition, which brought deserved condemnation and sorrow.

12. Peaceful and tranquil.

15. Some renewal of my Spiritual strength. Came to Alton in order to set my sister at liberty to attend the yearly meeting.

17. Precious heart-tendering seasons both morning and evening, which I esteemed an unmerited favour.

20. A trying day from indisposition; but divine good was not wholly withheld at meeting.

22. I think the duties of this day have been measurably fulfilled.

27. A snare thrown in my way this morning to which I too much yielded; but humbling myself before the Lord, whose compassion faileth not,

he was pleased to restore health to my soul: an unmerited mercy indeed!

29. A trying day to my feelings; yet laboured after resignation, which I was favoured measurably to attain to.

31. A trying day, from indisposition; but not without divine refreshment.

SIXTH MONTH, 1801.

11. Days of trial from extreme heat and debility.

12. John Abbott and Samuel Rundell were at our week-day meeting: Samuel Rundell was led in a close line to the earthly minded, and afterwards had a word of encouragement to the mourners in Zion, as had John Abbott. A public meeting in the evening, which I think was more satisfactory than such opportunities often are.

20. "The King's daughter is all glorious within, her clothing is of wrought gold," impressed my mind at meeting this morning; which led to an examination to see how far I resembled her. I fear there is yet much alloy, much work for the fire and hammer. May I stand resigned to their purifying operations.

26. Was renewedly desirous of washing my hands in innocency; that so I might compass the altar of God.

28. The Lord is still blessing Zion and satisfying her poor with bread. Though this was my blessed experience in the morning meeting I was in

the afternoon lukewarm, partly owing to the oppressive heat of the weather.

29. Retired pleasantly a while this evening out of the encumbering things of this world, which I find engross too much of my precious time.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1801.

3. Rather a low time at meeting to-day.

4. My niece was this day married. I was so much indisposed that I could feel little ability for any thing more, than some aspirations for her preservation.

9. Reached Bristol about noon: found our dear relations well.

10. Attended the week-day meeting. In the afternoon went to Pill to see if our dear friends Samuel Smith and Sarah Stephenson had sailed, found them on shore at John Grace's. Spent a pleasant evening with them. They were led in an encouraging line, in an opportunity after tea; sweetly exhorting to an encreasing faithfulness and patient enduring to the end.

13. Their week day-meeting silent, but a season of sweet solace to my poor feeble mind.

19. A trying day from indisposition.

21. Week-day meeting; dear Hannah Stephenson appeared acceptably. I was too lukewarm myself. Came in the afternoon to Weston.

23. Walked for some hours on the beach, ad-

admiring the majesty and beauty of the ocean; and the power and wisdom of Him who created it; setting bounds and limits to its proud waves, saying "Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further."

25. Sweet and peaceful in this humble cottage, where I see how few things are really needful. A sense of multiplied blessings hath bowed my spirit this morning.

26. Walked on the beach before breakfast. After it retired into a field to commune a little with my own heart and be still.

27. Retired a while; but could feel little of that life and love which sustains and comforts the soul.

31. Came to Bristol, attended the week-day meeting, which was a season of favour to my soul. I was consoled in the remembrance that the servant who gained but two talents to those committed to his care was accepted as well as he who had gained five.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1801.

2. A contriving season at meeting this morning during the time of silence. Came to Weston in the afternoon.

4. How are the Lord's mercies renewed from day to day; sustaining, consoling, and instructing the attentive mind!

8. The rest of this week spent in peaceful retirement at Weston: I hope not unimproved.

10. A day to be remembered for the fresh descendings of heavenly dew, and pure aspirations after holiness.

14. Renewed my spiritual strength to-day at meeting. What a favour!

18. Shamefully lukewarm at meeting this morning, which brought deserved condemnation.

23. Some life attended the morning meeting; the evening I thought painfully dull.

25. Favoured with sweet access to the throne of grace; where I craved the continuance of divine regard, and preservation from even the appearance of evil.

30. A time of searching of heart; and the petition of it was that the Lord would be pleased to do my work in me and for me, seeing my insufficiency even to regulate my thoughts aright. Dear George Dillwyn ministered unto us clothed with best authority; and I thought divided the word aright. Had a sweet little opportunity after supper at Ann Till Adams'.

31. Spent the day in sweet society: dear brother Samuel with us.

NINTH MONTH, 1801.

12. The rest of this week confined by a cold and fever; yet fear it has not been much improved. Attended the morning meeting, in which my spiritual strength was sweetly renewed, George Dillwyn

appeared largely and acceptably, and also Phebe Blakes. Phebe Blakes and Sarah Lynes dined with us. The latter addressed my dear mother in an extraordinary manner, and after much encouragement told her, that she believed that after the warfare was compleated, she would be gathered as a shock of corn fully ripe into the heavenly garner. Then she encouraged poor me to hold on my way; believing, though I was permitted to pass as through the waters, the waves should not overwhelm me; and through the fire, the flames should not kindle upon me, &c.

16. The quarterly meeting [for Bristol and Somersetshire]: I thought it a time of gathering. The wing of antient Goodness was sensibly spread over us, to the rejoicing of the spirits of some of us; dear Sarah Lynes and Phebe Blakes appeared acceptably among us; and were again exercised in the meeting for discipline, to call the youth to come home and build upon the alone sure foundation, Christ Jesus the Rock of ages.

18. Took leave of my beloved relations and friends; and came to Salisbury. I was very ill the greater part of the day and the night following; yet came on to Alton next day.

20. Again laid upon the bed of sickness. Have renewedly desired that my will may not in any wise oppose the Lord's will.

25. The quarterly meeting [for Hampshire]. Some degree of favour I thought attended the

meeting to-day. I think I felt thankful that I was permitted to sit with my dear friends.

26. Returned home after an absence of three months.

29. Received the affecting intelligence of the removal of my sweet nephew John Waring; yet think it an unspeakable consolation that he is gathered with the beauty of innocency upon him. Attended our Monthly meeting, a contriting season.

TENTH MONTH, 1801.

3. A day of joy to thousands: peace being once more restored to this guilty land; in addition to the blessing of a plentiful harvest. It has renewedly bowed my spirit before a gracious and long suffering God; desiring such unmerited mercy may not pass unacknowledged, or unimproved.

5. Methought the dew of heaven rested upon me this day, which sweetly contrited my spirit before a merciful God.

10. Have desired to bear my allotted portion of suffering with patience and resignation.

11. Was desirous that my offering this morning might not be polluted with self, but of the Lord's preparing, well knowing it is his own works, which alone can acceptably praise him.

14. Have had my time pretty fully occupied for several days, and my mind at times beset with

a temptation, from which I craved deliverance: at other times sweetly tranquil and resigned.

18. Instructive seasons both morning and afternoon meetings.

23. Went to meeting with a mind encumbered with care and anxiety, expecting but little consolation; yet the Lord was pleased to lift up the light of his countenance upon me, which encouraged me to repose my all in him; who assuredly is a God nigh at hand, and a present help in the needful time.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1801.

1. My soul sweetly replenished with celestial rain, which qualified to offer the sacrifice of praise to an all bountiful God.

8. Sweetly called to mind the Lord's mercies in visiting my poor soul, when dead in trespasses and in sin, saying, "Let there be light and there was light." O may the work of the new creation go on, breathing continually glory to God, and good-will towards man.

12. This week, like the foregoing, pretty much occupied with an afflicted relation.

13. Repaired this morning to the healing waters, which I was favoured to feel flow like a stream to my thirsty soul.

20. Another trying week; yet was favoured this morning to rise a little above these encumbers.

ing things, and press through the crowd, and touch the hem of His garment, in whom is living virtue.

27. Was favoured resignedly to lean upon the beloved of souls, who remains a covert from the wind and the storm.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1801.

3. Poorly and disquieted with trifles; yet was enabled to overcome it in a good degree.

11. Spent most of this week at Guildford, I trust not altogether unprofitably, feeling frequent aspirations after a state of purity and holiness.

13. Was afresh dipped into close exercise on account of the wanderers; earnestly breathing for the restoration of such, and the salvation of mankind universally.

16. David Sands came to our house, and had a publick meeting in the evening, which I thought a solemn one. He was strengthened to preach Jesus, inviting the people to come to him, the fountain of living waters.

19. I accompanied David Sands to Issington, [and] dined at Wanborough. An opportunity occurred in which he sweetly addressed the family. My mind was deeply bowed on their account.

20. Came to Alton. Attended the two meetings, which I thought favoured seasons, and David Sands was led to speak to the state of those present.

31. Confined from an accident, which I fear I have not sufficiently improved ; though I believe [the time] not idly spent, yet my thoughts have not been sufficiently under divine regulation. Indeed it has seemed, at times, as if I was left to myself, to show me what a very weak creature I am. Yet some aspirations after a better state have ascended at seasons.

FIRST MONTH, 1802.

1. Our monthly meeting. The meeting for worship a season of deep abasement to me, thinking myself unworthy to approach the Purest of Beings, yet sensible I was indebted to him for the many blessings with which I was surrounded. In the meeting for discipline desired leave to withdraw as clerk ; not from a wish to be less serviceable to society, but from a belief that some diffident minds should be brought forward into service.

3. Was enabled to rise above the corruption of my nature and centre a while in the supreme good. Great indeed is the compassion of God towards the meanest of his works. O, that I was more worthy.

4. Our quarterly meeting, a dull time. The meeting for worship short ; and so many words, that my mind got hardly stayed.

10. Trust I was enabled this morning to worship the Father of spirits with some degree of acceptance. What a favour !

17. The desire of my heart this day has been

that we of the middle-aged might be as way-marks to the beloved youth, inviting them, in the language of example, "Follow us as we" are endeavouring to "follow Christ." A deep sense of the depravity of great part of the human race affected my mind, and raised cries to the Father of mercies that they might be brought to the knowledge of himself and be saved.

19. Have been turning over some of the past leaves of my life; and entering afresh into the chambers of sorrow in my dear father's illness and my own, under which trials the Lord mercifully sustained me. A sense of his unmerited goodness to me, all my life long unto this very day, and of my own continued unworthiness has at this time bowed my spirit before him.

31. I was mercifully enabled this morning to rise above the things of this life, and favoured to partake, according to my measure, of the joys of God's salvation. In the afternoon a sigh and a tear were all I had to offer; yet believed it profitable to know how to want, as well as to know how to abound; and to be renewedly convinced that the latter is not at our command,

SECOND MONTH, 1802.

2. Our monthly-meeting at Guildford, in which was renewedly desirous of repairing to the ancient foundation, yet found it hard work to get to it.

10. The last few days much devoted to the service of others, though I fear not much spiritually improved.

12. I went to meeting this morning in a comfortable frame of mind ; but the enemy of all good soon caught its unwary attention, and led it into the fields of imagination, where it remained for some time captivated ; but the good remembrancer, who was also near, drew it in mercy towards himself, showing me my folly ; which cost me many tears, and in, I trust, true contrition of soul, measurably effected the work of reconciliation : I record it under an humbling sense of unmerited condescension, and of my own unworthiness.

13. That the Christian life is a continual warfare was confirmed in my experience to day. I trust it was in a good degree maintained in both meetings.

18. Shook off sloth, and rose early, desiring a sense of the divine-presence might preserve me in innocence, in thought, word, and deed, through the day.

20. My mind exercised on account of several whom I love ; and was led to petition for them the blessing of preservation from every hurtful thing, and that they might be favoured to see and embrace the things which will ensure their everlasting peace.

21. The morning meeting a precious season, the unction from above resting upon the minds of some of us, which were in a good degree gathered into

the silence of all flesh. A painful circumstance occurring before the afternoon meeting which I thought struck at the best life, my mind was so involved in it that I could rise but little above it.

23. Renewedly desirous of keeping the word of the Lord's patience, that so I might be kept from the hour of temptation.

24. Sweet and tranquil: every care, and unprofitable desire, measurably bounded by the limiting power of truth.

26. Desired to be preserved from shrinking from the crucifying power of truth, which can alone qualify for an admission into the rest that is undefiled.

28. Low stripping seasons to-day at meeting, probably for want of a more unremitting watch; yet thought I laboured according to my small ability.

THIRD MONTH, 1802.

5. Our monthly meeting. Methought it was a time of wading. Can the true Israel sing when the seed is in captivity? Verily nay.

10. A dissipating day, spent much among the gentry, respecting a benevolent institution in hand, yet do not recollect but the cross was pretty fully borne by me.

12. "Ponder the path of thy feet," and "let thine eyes look right on," was the watch word to-day at meeting. O, that I may be enabled so to do, in all my steppings, through the vicissitudes of time.

14. A circumstance occurred which called for the exercise of that Christian meekness, which we as a people profess. May we be preserved in it, and enabled when smitten to turn the other cheek also. The prayer of my heart has been, that I may be so preserved, and, if opportunity offered, return good for evil.

15. My mind much encumbered with the foregoing circumstance.

16. Rose a little above it, by repairing to the Healer of breaches. What a mercy to have such a Rock to retire to from the wind and the storms !

21. Deeply humbled under a belief that I had not fully acknowledged the Lord in all my ways as I ought to have done. In the afternoon think the watch was in a good degree maintained, being sincerely desirous that the days work might keep pace with the day.

25. My time fully occupied in serving my neighbours, even to weariness.

28. I think the duties of this day have been in a good degree performed, through divine assistance ; no merit due to the creature.

FOURTH MONTH, 1802.

2. Was enabled to rise above the encumbering things of this life : and to aspire after that communion which is with the Father and with the Son :

of which I was measurably made to partake. Adorable condescension !

4. A time of digging this morning. In the afternoon could once more set up my Ebenezer, and say, "Hitherto the Lord hath helped me." What shall I render unto him for all his benefits ?

6. Our quarterly meeting. I thought the silent part of the meeting for worship measurably owned by the great Master of assemblies. The meeting for discipline was trying to my feelings. — appeared, endeavouring to rouse the lukewarm, and encourage the youth to more faithfulness.

13. Read some letters from those to whom I was once nearly united ; and who of later years have deserted the precious cause of truth. My soul was deeply prostrated, under a humbling sense of the continued kindness of a merciful God, who hath hitherto preserved me alive amidst so much weakness ; and renewed desires were begotten in my heart for the recovery of these strayed ones.

16. Our week-day meeting was to me a stripping time, in which I had renewedly to acknowledge that in me as a creature dwelt no good thing ; and that, if I did any good, the sufficiency was of God : in whom dwells the fullness.

18. Think the warfare was in a good degree maintained to-day, nor were my feeble endeavour unowned by condescending Goodness ; whose mercy is assuredly over all his works.

22. I think the last few days have not been

spent vainly, or idly; yet perhaps they might have been more improved.

23. I laboured to-day at meeting, I believed according to my small measure; yet for want of more united exercise of spirit the work lies heavily on a few, who I trust are preferring Jerusalem to their chiefest joy. Taken suddenly ill.

26. Had a trying night, and was very ill this morning. The prospect looked awful. I desired that nothing might arise in my heart to oppose the Lord's will, whether life or death: believing he would order all things aright. Under this sustaining conviction I felt calm and quiet, which I esteemed an unmerited mercy; towards evening the symptoms were more favourable.

FIFTH MONTH, 1802.

4. My strength nearly restored. How is the debt of gratitude increased within the last fortnight! May I dwell under an humbling sense thereof; deeply feeling my unworthiness, and the gracious condescension of a merciful God towards one of the meanest of his works.

6. Had a letter from my precious niece—which gave me reason to hope that the good seed is not only sown, but likely to produce fruit. May the Lord in his wonted goodness, be pleased to preserve this tender plant from every noxious thing; that it may flourish and yield the peaceable fruits.

of righteousness, which are quietness and assurance for ever.

12. This week much taken up with the company of my brother and sister, and though truly pleasant, I was comforted to feel that nothing short of heavenly communion could satisfy the immortal part.

14. Favoured with some access to the sovereign Good in our little silent meeting.

19. This day the yearly meeting began. I thought the overshadowing wing of that goodness which is ancient and ever new was measurably spread over us.

24. Again laid upon a bed of sickness ; to which I was pretty much confined this week. My feelings at times almost overwhelming; at others more comfortable. Many kind friends came to see me, yet I have with shame to record that my eye was not sufficiently single to the great Physician of value; but centered too much in outward comforts.

SIXTH MONTH, 1802.

3. Returned home, bore my journey better than could have been expected.

4. Ventured to meeting, though weak, which proved a contriving season to my poor mind, which was deeply humbled under a sense of my manifold deficiencies. Thomas Clarke there, who paid me

a visit in the afternoon, in which he had to hand forth a word of encouragement to me.

8. Still weak both in body and mind ; yet some aspirations after redemption from all evil have at seasons ascended to the Fountain of all our sure mercies.

12. Was favoured to-day with a renewed evidence that I am not forsaken : an experience more precious than rubies.

18. An humbling season to-day at meeting, where the language of the poor publican was adopted, as applicable to my state.

23. Sadness was much the covering of my mind to-day from several causes, one of which was the account of dear Sarah Stephenson's removal from works to rewards, while en aged on a family-visit in Philadelphia. Yet believe there is no cause to sorrow on her account, but much need to look to our own standing, that we may also die the death of the righteous. O, that my latter end may be like unto hers, full of sweet peace.

25. Discharged my duty as an overseer to the best of my ability ; in other respects weak enough.

26. Returned from meeting this morning as from a washing-pool, sweetened and refreshed ; but not watchful enough in the afternoon.

28. Am renewedly convinced that the way to the kingdom is straight and narrow indeed. O that I may be enabled to walk therein with unerring feet ; but, alas ! few, I believe, are so weak, and prone to what is wrong.

29. Temptations of various kinds have beset my path of late, to which I have too much, far too much, yielded at times; at others, measurably resisted, and craved deliverance from them.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1802.

2. Afresh assaulted by the enemy of all good, who sought to lay waste every heavenly desire; but in matchless love and condescension, the Lord once more enabled me to set up my Ebenezer, and say, "Hitherto hast thou helped me."

5. Our quarterly meeting. I thought a good degree of solemnity was over the meeting, particularly the fore part of it. The meeting for discipline was trying to my feelings, yet dear Sarah Hack was strengthened to kneel down and supplicate the Lord to carry forward his own work.

10. Wrestled, as in the night season, and obtained but little: the afternoon meeting more lively.

13. Felt something of the refreshing dew rest upon my poor wearied mind.

17. Had renewedly to number my blessings, and acknowledge they were far, very far, beyond my deserts. In the afternoon gave way unprofitably to a roving disposition, for which I was favoured to feel a degree of true contrition.

21. The last few days much devoted to the

service of the poor, and I think I have been preserved in a good degree of watchfulness.

22. Shamefully lukewarm at meeting, which produced some conflict and sorrow towards the close of it. Missed my way in the evening.

23. Much in the valley, fearing I should one day fall a prey to my potent enemy.

24. Some renewal of spiritual strength to-day: a favour I esteemed myself unworthy of. May it excite to a more faithful walking before the Father of mercies.

27. That the Lord is rich in mercy, and plentiful in redemption, I firmly believe. May it deepen my gratitude, and make me careful not to offend him; yet I am daily made sensible that I cannot take one step aright in the heavenly race without his divine aid; for assuredly it is his own works alone that can praise him acceptably: nothing that we can do as creatures.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1802.

4. My spirit contrited under a grateful sense of present, as well as past, multiplied blessings bestowed upon me by a merciful Creator.

11. How weak and inconstant is the human heart! One day I think I am preferring Jerusalem to my chiefest joy; and that the enemies of my own house are measurably slain; then I find that I am again taken captive by them, that they are not

Lamley favoured with near access to the throne of grace.

19. Renewed aspirations after perfect purity.

23. Received the affecting tidings of the removal of Elizabeth Heath. It seemed like a renewed call, "Be ye also ready."

25. A season of sweet solace in our little silent gathering. Oh, that any should be slighting so precious a privilege!

26. Instructive seasons, both morning and afternoon, to my waiting soul. Thomas and Elizabeth Ashby appeared acceptably in the morning, and the latter also in supplication. Spent the evening at Robert Moline's. A sweet opportunity after tea, in which Thomas Ashby had to encourage a state present to faithfulness.

28. Our monthly meeting at Guildford, which I thought measurably owned by the great Master of our assemblies. After dinner Thomas Ashby sweetly addressed John and Mary Sweetapple, recurring to their late loss,* and expressing his desire for their advancement in the path of religious usefulness.

TENTH MONTH, 1802.

1. Enabled to wrestle a little for the blessing; which in great mercy was not withheld.

* See 19th of Eighth month.

5. Our quarterly meeting, which proved an exercising time to my feelings. Again chosen for clerk; nor could I get at that state of quiet my soul earnestly desired and breathed after. It was perhaps permitted for my humiliation.

8. Some renewal of my faith and confidence in the divine All-sufficiency, in our little gathering.

10. Methought I was brought to-day as to the measuring line, and shown my deficiencies; which humbled and contrited my spirit before the Father of mercies.

11. Though a busy day, found a little leisure to retire out of the cumbers, and feel after that power which can alone preserve from falling.

15. My feelings somewhat tried, under which I was preserved in a good degree of quiet.

17. Found it hard work to get at the spring this morning, and I believed it was for want of a more united exercise of spirit; yet the blessing was not wholly withheld.

21. The cloud appeared to me to rest upon the tabernacle, so that there seemed but little ability to move forward; yet was favoured with some degree of quiet.

24. Much beset with weakness and temptation; yet was favoured to rise for a while above it, and repair to the Healer of breaches.

31. Went to Guildford to meet my friend David Sands. Attended the afternoon meeting, in which he had a word of encouragement to hand

to the mourners in Zion. A public meeting in the evening to good satisfaction.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1802.

5. Attended our monthly meeting. David Sands appeared largely in testimony, was close to the lukewarm, but encouraging to the sincere hearted. Spent the day at brother Kidd's: David had an opportunity in the evening with the young folks, and was drawn forth excellently in supplication.

7. Accompanied David Sands to Issington, had a sitting in the family in the evening. First-day came to Alton, attended both meetings, and had a sweet opportunity in the family in the evening, in which the young folks were tenderly addressed, with which they seemed affected.

8. Went to Issington in the afternoon, a public meeting being appointed in the evening. About two hundred people attended from the neighbouring villages, who appeared well satisfied, and some affected with David Sand's doctrine. I thought him remarkably clear and favoured in testimony.

9. Returned to Alton: another public meeting in the evening, in which David Sands was led to explain the nature of the gospel dispensation and true ministry.

13. We parted from our beloved friend in near affection; my dear mother and self returning home, David Sands intending for Basingstoke.

14. Was thankful to feel that the dew of heaven was not withheld; notwithstanding my mind had been too much outward and centering in worldly comforts. May it excite to more vigilance and circumspection.

18. Much of a Martha this week, having many things to attend to, and my mind unprofitably outward.

21. A day of some conflict of spirit, and deep humiliation.

23. Sat a while as at Wisdom's gate, when the petition of my heart was, that the Lord would deign to be my portion, and the God of Israel the lot of my inheritance for ever; and then let come what will come, all will be well.

25. Think I may venture to say this day has been well spent as to action; but my poor mind has seemed left a prey to its own weakness and frailty, so as to be almost overwhelmed.

26. Notwithstanding I sat down at meeting, and seemed a while stripped of all good; yet, after some struggling, was enabled to sing a little of mercy and judgment. What a favour!

28. Through divine assistance the warfare was in good degree maintained this morning; though not without considerable conflict. In the after-

noon and evening too unwatchful, which brought the deserved punishment of sadness of heart.

29. Methinks my dwelling has been much in the valley where I desire to continue : believing my safety consists in a state of humble watchfulness.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1802.

3. My hope and confidence in the Lord sweetly renewed in my silent waiting this morning at meeting : for which favour I desire to bless his holy name.

5. Notwithstanding some weakness and besetment, was favoured to rise for a while above it, and approach Him who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

8. Gave way to the suggestions of my cruel enemy, which brought deserved condemnation; and, like poor Peter, I wept bitterly. May I, like him, be favoured to witness perfect reconciliation and forgiveness.

12. Renewedly convinced from a degree of blessed experience, that there is still "Balm in Gilead," and "a Physician there," willing to heal the wounds made by sin and transgression. How lamentable so few should avail themselves of so precious a privilege!

13. A day not wholly unimproved, as I have

been enabled to afford some relief to my fellow-creatures; and think my mind hath been measurably bounded by the preserving fear of the Lord. What a favour!

17. My poor mind sweetly refreshed to-day, at our little silent meeting.

19. My mind so beset with perplexing circumstances, that I reaped but little benefit by going to meeting; though I made some efforts to press through the crowd; yet a sigh and a tear were the poor offerings I had to make.

24. Have spent this week with my friend Sarah Birkbeck (of Guildford) who is ill, and required my attention; and though a consciousness of some weaknesses is my companion; yet trust I have not incurred much condemnation.

30. Have had my mind encumbered this week with many things; yet trust have not lost sight of the better part.

31. A refreshing season at meeting, in which my hopes and confidence were sweetly renewed in the Lord. Thus ends another year of my pilgrimage. That I may so run the remainder of it, as to obtain, in the end, the answer of well done, is the petition of a heart humbled under a sense of its manifold infirmities.

FIRST MONTH, 1803.

1. I rose this morning with renewed desires

after holiness, hoping to have a good day; but alas! I found the tempter near spreading his baits, to catch the feet of my unwary mind: in which he too well succeeded, so that sorrow and self-abasement were justly my portion.

3. Went to Horsham, in order to attend the quarterly meeting.* We went through some deep water without injury, which some of us esteemed a favour.

4. I sat down at meeting this morning, under an humbling sense of my own unworthiness; yet the great Shepherd of Israel, in his wonted goodness, was pleased to overshadow the minds of some of us with his life-giving presence: an unmerited mercy.

5 and 6. Days of humiliation, having missed my way.

9. Once more was the royal scepter in great mercy extended to a poor penitent. What return, O my soul, canst thou make unto the Lord for all his benefits?

12. Trust I have stepped along the last few days, with some degree of watchfulness and safety.

14. I desired not to eat the bread of idleness to-day at meeting; and think I laboured according to ability received; which was not in vain, my soul being sweetly replenished.

16. My soul bowed under a sense of multi-

* Two of the monthly meetings of Surry were at that time joined to the quarterly meeting of Sussex.

plied blessings, both ancient and new, and the poor return I had to make to an all-bountiful Creator. In the afternoon had a fresh combat with my spiritual enemies.

17. Renewedly desirous of walking uprightly in the heavenly image in which man was at first created.

23. A day of conflict of spirit, in which the enemy prevailed for a season; yet think he was silenced and put to flight, through divine assistance.

27. I think thus far of the week hath been literally spent in the service of my neighbours; yet I trust the better part hath not been wholly neglected.

29. Somewhat comforted with the belief, on a retrospect that the day's work is in some measure keeping pace with the day.

SECOND MONTH, 1803.

1. Our monthly meeting at Guildford, in which I was according to my measure dipped into the low state of things among us; so that heaviness of heart was my portion.

4. By giving way to a roving disposition on first sitting down at meeting, my way became so hedged up, that I could not discern a path; but, after struggling a while, I was enabled to press

through the crowd of difficulties, and approach Him who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

6. I fear my concern to-day, though not unprofitable in itself, was beside the proper business.

9. Some renewal of my spiritual strength, and confidence in the divine All-sufficiency, this morning.

11. A precious, contriting season at our little silent meeting to-day.

12. When led to see the evil propensities of my heart, I am at times ready to compare myself to poor Mary of old, out of whom our Saviour cast seven devils, and having had much forgiven, am I trust sincerely desirous of imitating her in my love towards him.

18. My spirit sweetly contrited on reading some account of the close of dear Samuel Emlen [of Philadelphia], which raised renewed desires that I might live the life, and so be prepared to die the death, of the righteous.

24. The last few days much taken up with company; yet I trust not altogether unprofitably so.

25. Repaired as to the measuring line, where I desired to be made sensible of my deficiencies, and enabled to bear every refining operation necessary for my complete sanctification.

27. My spirit sweetly centered in the morning;

in the afternoon too unwatchful. O, when will my mind resemble the garden enclosed, every hurtful thing shut out.

THIRD MONTH, 1803.

2. The last few days have passed serenely away; and the watch I trust hath been in a good degree maintained; yet I know that I stand in jeopardy every hour, having an unwearied enemy, who is oft seeking to lay waste every good desire.

4. Goodness and mercy are still following me. What return, O my soul, canst thou make for such unmerited favours? Mayest thou endeavour to walk in humility and fear, all the days of thy life.

9. The last few days have been busily spent, as to action: but my mind hath wandered often unprofitably; which at seasons hath been cause of mourning and heaviness of heart.

11. I sat down at meeting, I think I may venture to say, in self-abasedness, and I was shown that if I kept nearer that power which can alone give the victory, I should not so often have found my spiritual enemies prevail against me; and the petition of my heart was for more stability, and that the woful portion of the hypocrite might never be mine. The morning meeting measurably favoured with the overshadowings of heavenly love and life, in great mercy extended to the seeking,

waiting soul. A few of this number, I trust, were thus gathered.

16. Somewhat like a renewal of covenant this morning. Oh, how ardently did I desire, that I might henceforward walk with unerring steps, in the path of humility and self-denial: counting every inferior enjoyment but as dross and dung, so that I might win Christ; but alas! when I consider my frailty and proneness to self-indulgence, I have much reason to fear that I shall yet have to mourn many mis-steppings in my pilgrimage.

19. A day of some vexation, which I fear I did not bear with sufficient meekness.

20. My soul afresh bowed before the Father of mercies, craving the continuance of his preserving power and care over me.

27. Think I was enabled to cease from my own imaginations, and in a good degree favoured with true silence, in my sittings to-day at meeting.

30. My time has been this week much devoted to the sick and poor, being surrounded with sickness;* but our family is at present in health, which calls for gratitude: as well as the many other blessings showered upon us, and of which I trust we are not insensible.

* Influenza; probably.

FOURTH MONTH, 1803.

3. A sweetly refreshing season to my poor mind at meeting, this morning.

5. Our quarterly meeting at Brighton. The meeting for worship not very lively to my feelings; the business was got through more satisfactorily than sometimes.

8. This day I have passed through a most distressing scene, dear Mary Holland, a few hours after her infant was born, was removed by death. Never while memory remains, shall I forget, at seasons, this affecting scene. It seemed almost too much for nature to support, unassisted by Divine Power. But Oh! I trust she was in abundant mercy received where pain and sorrow will never more annoy her.

10. Weak and languid from my late exertion: but was favoured in my silent sitting to feel something of the healing waters, dispensed to my poor drooping mind.

13. Still occupied in visiting the abodes of sickness and sorrow; yet feel my strength in some measure recruited, through mercy.

17. A precious favoured season, in our little silent meeting this morning.

20. Much taken up with company; yet my mind hath at some seasons aspired after the alone.

Source of good, at others hath been too much scattered.

22. A day to be long remembered by me, I trust, for the fresh decendings of heavenly dew! O, that I may be enabled to walk worthy such unmerited favours.

24. My mind renewedly instructed in my silent waiting to day at meeting. How much is it to be lamented, that any should be slighting so great a privilege!

27. Still busied about many things; though a consciousness of many attendant weaknesses is my present companion; yet I trust I am in some degree pursuing the one thing needful. O, that it was with more ardency of spirit, my constant aim.

30. A fresh scene of trial and affliction opened upon us, may it be sanctified to us and those more immediately concerned.

FIFTH MONTH, 1803.

1. Graciously permitted to lean upon the Beloved of souls, in my silent sittings before him to-day.

3. Was shamefully thrown off my guard for want of a more close attention to my unerring Guide. Self abasement is justly my portion this day.

6. Favoured with some beams of divine consolation, in my lowly sitting this day.

8. Travailed, according to my measure, for the dead, that they might be favoured to hear the voice of the Son of God and live.

11. Have been confined this week with a sore throat, but have been gently dealt with and tenderly nursed by my kind friends; and, above all, been favoured at seasons to feel the Comforter near. Mayst thou deeply ponder, O my soul, how much thou owest to so merciful a God, and walk worthy such unmerited privileges.

17. Came to Walworth in order to attend the yearly meeting, after a pretty agreeable journey, and under a grateful sense of past as well as present favours.

26. A sitting of the yearly meeting in the afternoon, where to my great surprize, Mary Bevan proposed my name to the meeting as one of the committee to visit Hampshire and Dorsetshire. It bowed me exceedingly, believing myself by no means qualified for such an important service; but after pleading my disqualification, and desiring my name to be withdrawn, I submitted to the judgment of the meeting: in fear, I think I may say.

27. Feel more tranquil, am favoured with a degree of acquiescence, accompanied with the hope that this dispensation may prove profitable to myself; although I may not afford strength to my companions.

30. Accompanied my kind friends William and Isabel Grover to Stansted. The next day attended

their monthly meeting; the forepart of which was exercising to me, but afterwards proved a strengthening season.

SIXTH MONTH, 1803.

2. A day of heaviness of heart.

3. Tranquil and resigned.

5. Favoured to repair to the quiet habitation, where my spiritual strength was renewed.

6. Went to Colchester, in order to attend the quarterly meeting for Essex: a large gathering to-day, and a considerable number of solid friends. I think it was an eminently favoured season.

8. Staid over the week-day meeting, in which dear Elizabeth Gibson and Mary Alexander, &c. laboured abundantly in gospel love, to gather the outcasts in our Israel. It was a season that I trust will not soon be forgotten by some present.

11. Left my dear and valued friends at Stansted, and the next day was at meeting at Hertford. I thought from my feelings that the spring of life lay low; and that all present were not sufficiently engaged to dig for its arising.

14. Too inattentive to my best interest, and so suffered loss. Came to town, met with affecting tidings, which with a sense of my mis-steppings caused deservedly heaviness of heart.

19. Went to Gracechurch-street meeting, in

which, though rather a low time, I thought my soul was bowed under a sense of past, as well as present, mercies.

20. Came home and found my dear friends generally well, which I hope I esteemed a favour.

21. Fresh trials and perplexities attend; yet I think I have in a good degree kissed the hand that has permitted them. Is it not better to partake in the afflictions of Joseph than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season? May I ever prefer it.

26. Renewedly desirous of having my feet directed in the path of self-denial, and of being enabled to take up my cross daily and follow a crucified Saviour.

29. Trust I have moved along the last few days with a good degree of circumspection and lowliness of heart.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1803.

1. My mind much bowed down with renewed trials and exercises. O, that patience may have its perfect work.

4. Came to Ryegate in order to attend the quarterly meeting. Here we met with dear Deborah Darby, Rebecca Byrd, Elizabeth Hoyal, and Martha Smith, who were truly welcome to some of us. The meeting for worship a favoured season; the latter meeting was very trying to my feelings; but, as Rebecca Byrd had to testify,

we are not to live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God; and if the various trials that are permitted do but tend to the great work of sanctification, it will be all well in the end: which is what I at this time covet beyond riches or length of days.

10. Was desirous this morning at meeting, that not an offensive thought might arise in my heart; and think I was preserved in a good degree of watchfulness.

12. Think the bent of my desires the last two days has been much heavenward. May it continue so, is my earnest desire. This morning have performed my duty as an overseer according to ability received.

15. Have been renewedly convinced that every vessel in the Lord's house must have the inscription of "holiness" upon it; and the desire of my heart hath been that I may be fitted to bear this divine impression; though only as a door-keeper, or one of the meanest servants employed therein.

20. Pretty fully occupied with company, &c. but I trust not wholly to the neglect of the one thing needful.

23. Endeavoured to shake off every encumbering thing, and repair to the Source of true help: nor was my feeble effort altogether unblessed.

27. Retired a while in order to commune with my own heart and be still: but met with frequent interruptions.

29. Went to meeting with the hope of meeting

with the Beloved of souls; when methought the enemy pursued me to the very horns of the altar; yet being mercifully enabled, in a good degree, to keep my hold, I trust he gained but little advantage over me.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1803.

4. Though perhaps not so watchful as is right, yet I feel but little condemnation in looking over the last few days.

5. Our monthly meeting at Guildford, where though discouragements abound, was thankful that a little strength was given to support the discipline.

9. Some degree of hunger and thirst after righteousness! What a favour, believing it is of the Lord's creating: nothing of the creature.

12. Sarah Bleckley and Hannah Evans were at our meeting and appeared acceptably: as the former did in a sitting in the evening, and both of them next morning before we parted.

14. A laborious meeting this morning, in which I was enabled to maintain the warfare, and was crowned with some degree of victory. What an unspeakable favour.

18. Was off my guard on my first sitting down at meeting to-day, and got busied beside my proper business, which made it hard work to get centered, which I was favoured to do for a short time.

20. An awakening call this morning in the

sudden removal of John Sweetapple, who has left an afflicted wife and eight children, to deplore his loss. How inscrutable are the ways of Providence to us, shortsighted mortals.

22. Was renewedly desirous of redeeming my time, because evil does indeed abound.

23. Spent the day with the afflicted family at Catshall, to whom I trust the Lord will fulfil his gracious promise, of being an husband to the widow, and a father to the fatherless.

25. Felt a little portion of that peace, which passeth the natural understanding, rest upon my poor mind: and renewed desires were raised, that in my approaching journey, I might be preserved from doing my own will; that if I am not enabled to do any thing to advance the cause of truth, I may do nothing against it.

30. Consciousness of attendant weakness is my present companion.

NINTH MONTH, 1803.

2. Left home under depressing sensations, from various causes, so stripped of good, that I could scarcely breathe for preservation, though convinced that I stood in abundant need of it. Slept that night at Wanborough; and after some difficulty proceeded to Salisbury, at which place we were favoured to arrive in safety, though much fatigued and exhausted: yet a degree of peaceful serenity

was vouchsafed. The next day attended both meetings, and was painfully struck with the loose manner of their gathering. Here my renewed petition was that I might be preserved in humility and singleness of heart, as well as from doing my own will in the impending visit; but simply attend to the portion of labour assigned, though it might be only to suffer in secret.

N. B. The interval between the last date and the succeeding was employed in the visit, by appointment of the yearly meeting, to the quarterly meetings of Dorsetshire and Hampshire.

25. Returned home. I feel languid; yet I trust I am not unmindful of the many blessings with which I am surrounded.

27. This week hath mostly been spent in attention to my dear niece H—, who has been alarmingly ill, yet I have at seasons felt the good Hand near to preserve and sustain my mind, in a degree of peaceful serenity.

TENTH MONTH, 1803.

2. Again favoured to retire to the Rock of my strength, where my thirsty soul was replenished.

4. Our quarterly meeting at Horsham. Several strangers present, yet methought life did not arise into much dominion.

9. I thought the morning meeting a favoured season. John Kinsey appeared acceptably. The

afternoon a trying one. From some cause or other there evidently felt an obstruction to the circulation of life.

12. Fulfilled an appointment of the monthly-meeting in visiting a delinquent; who manifested much tenderness, and a true sense of the kindness of friends.

14. Think I sat in a good degree of true silence to-day at meeting, in which I was owned by the Father and Fountain of all our sure mercies.

21. Found on my sitting down to-day at meeting that it would not do to feed upon the manna of yesterday; but that it must be renewedly waited for, and I was favoured with a little portion of it.

23. Had afresh to call to mind the gracious dealings of the Lord with me from my youth up to this very day.

24. "I will set the Lord always before me," said David; and the desire of my heart hath been, that I may always consider myself as in his presence, and so fear to offend him in thought, word, or deed.

30. Both morning and afternoon meetings seasons of conflict to my poor mind; yet trust the enemy did not gain much ascendancy over me.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1803.

2. The two last days my dwelling hath been

much in the valley. I was favoured to-day in my silent sitting with something of that heavenly union and communion which is with the Father and with the Son. Inestimable privilege! May my future steppings evince that I retain a deep sense of its value.

5. Set off in company with Richard Reynolds for Bristol. Reached Melksham first-day morning. The meeting in the morning, held in silence, proved an instructive season to my waiting soul.

7. Left my kind friends at Chapel-Nap, and reached Bristol in the evening, where I found my beloved relations in usual health, which I hope to esteem a favour. Dear Hannah Stephenson, who is at present an inmate in my brother's family, was also better than expected.

10. Some friends dining here, dear H. S. appeared in a lively testimony after dinner, pressing to faithfulness, and testifying from her own experience, that the Lord was a rich rewarder of all those that diligently seek him.

13. I trust the warfare was measurably maintained, though in much weakness. I thought the meetings painfully laborious, especially that in the evening. A precious opportunity occurred in the afternoon in the family, in which H. S. sweetly addressed parents and children.

14. Off my guard, which brought with it a degree of self-condemnation.

15. Repaired to the washing-pool, from which I returned refreshed. Having company, dear H. S.

addressed a young woman, sweetly inviting her to bend her neck to the yoke of Christ, and then it would be made easy, and what is called his burthen would be light indeed to the subjected will.

18. Although I sat down at meeting this morning encompassed with infirmity; yet endeavouring to dig deep, through divine assistance, I was enabled to approach the Throne of Grace, and to put up my petition for continued preservation from every hurtful thing.

21. Was fearful that I was not deep enough in my spirit, but moved too much on the surface; therefore desired that I might increase in every Christian virtue, and that my heart might be fortified with divine grace to resist the assaults of an unwearied enemy.

24. Dear Hannah Stephenson had a sweet opportunity as we sat round her bed this evening, which refreshed our spirits.

25. "Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars," impressed my mind soon after I sat down at meeting this morning; and the desire of my heart was, that the fire of the Lord, which is his power, might indeed enter, and destroy every thing that is offensive to his purity.

27. Trust the duties of this day have been measurably fulfilled.

30. Dear Hannah Stephenson had a trying day and appeared very low this evening, and worn with pain. She desired that when favoured

with ability, we would pray for her, that patience might have its perfect work in her; saying 'What a sad thing it would be if I should prove a 'stumbling-block' at last.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1803.

4. Both morning and evening meetings preciously favoured seasons to my waiting soul. I did not eat the bread of idleness.

5. My time this week hath been fully engaged, one way or another, but not, I trust, to the exclusion of the better part. I have been favoured with some watering refreshing seasons, unworthy as I esteem myself of such a favour; and on looking back do not feel much, if any, condemnation.

15. I feel conscious that I have not stepped along with that circumspection which is required of a professed follower of a crucified Saviour.

17. Came to Chapel-Nap, where I met with an affectionate reception, and attended Melksham meetings next day, which I thought rather low seasons.

20. Reached Shaftsbury, where we found most of our little band* assembled, and as we had parted in sweet fellowship, so it was pleasant to feel it revive again on our sitting down together.

* The yearly meeting's committee before-mentioned.

28. Spent most of this week at Alton, where I met with my beloved mother. Returned home the 30th, when on a review of the manifold blessings, and favours bestowed upon me, the humble language of my soul was, What shall I render unto thee, O Lord, for all thy benefits? May increasing dedication of heart mark the few remaining steps of my pilgrimage, and evince that I have not only sung of thy mercies, but endeavoured, by obedience to thy divine law, to improve them.

FIRST MONTH, 1804.

1. The vision of Jacob's ladder, and the angels ascending and descending thereon, opened sweetly on my mind, pretty early in the meeting: which appeared to me a lively representation of the communion between the soul and its Creator, when favoured to ascend this heavenly ladder, leaving all transitory things at the foot of it; and the prayer of my heart was that it might be fitted more and more for so precious an enjoyment.

8. Many things crowding in since my last remark, I forget particularly what has occurred, but this I know, that goodness and mercy have followed me from day to day; and though I may not always have improved these blessings as I ought to have done; yet on a retrospect I feel not much condemnation.

14. Came to Guildford to spend a few days with my dear Sarah Birkbeck, who is in a declining state of health.

15. I think I was enabled to centre for a while in the silence of all flesh, this morning at meeting. In the afternoon staid with Sarah Birkbeck, our time not spent unprofitably, I trust.

17. A precious contriting season in sitting with the little handful at this place. After it, met with an exercise of Christian patience; which, I trust, I bore with becoming meekness.

20. Not so watchful as I should have been, from which I suffered loss.

21. My dwelling hath been much in the valley this day: a lowly, but a safe situation.

22. Sitting down this morning at meeting, in much abasement, I was favoured to feel something of the healing waters dispensed to my thirsty soul; a favour I esteemed myself unworthy of. The afternoon, did not maintain the watch so steadily as I ought to have done.

25. Have been too much dissipated and in the mixture; yet have at times mourned my thralldom and breathed for deliverance.

26. "Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge." Mayest thou, O my soul, open thine ear to instruction.

29. I thought the morning meeting a precious favoured season, dear Susanna Horne had a word of encouragement to hand to the mourners in Zion, and an invitation to the youth, to come, taste,

and see how good the Lord is to those that love and fear his name. The afternoon not so lively, S. H. had a sitting in brother Kidd's family, and with my beloved Sybilla Turnour in her chamber, whom she endeavoured to encourage to come forward in the Christian race: concluding with this passage, "Come up hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife."

SECOND MONTH, 1804.

12. A variety of circumstances have combined within the last two weeks to harrass my mind, so much so, as almost entirely to preclude that quiet and settledness so desirable, and which I have at seasons pressed after, and of course disqualified me from minuting down my feelings as they occurred.

19. Deeply humbling were my views of myself this day; yet some encouragement was also administered, through adorable condescension.

21. I have considered the station I stand in as awful, some looking towards me for example and help. O that I was indeed qualified for a way-mark; but instead thereof how often have I to mourn over my leanness and poverty.

24. A time of searching of heart to-day in our little silent meeting: an employ I desire to be often found in.

26. My mind, through unwatchfulness, got

entangled in a snare, spread before it, I doubt not, by the enemy of all good, in order to divert its attention, on my first sitting down at meeting; but after a while the good Remembrancer, being also near, showed me my folly; to whom I cried for deliverance, and was enabled to press through and touch the hem of his garment, and found healing virtue to flow from him.

THIRD MONTH, 1804.

3. Much beset with evil: yet trust through divine assistance the warfare is still measurably maintained.

4. Still weak and poor every way, yet I trust not forsaken. What a mercy!

7. Faint yet pursuing.

9. A little revival of my faith and confidence this morning, in our little silent gathering.

11. Came to Guildford to see dear Sarah Birkbeck, who is in all human probability hastening towards, I trust, a better country.

14. My time pretty fully taken up, in attending my dear friend; yet I think I have been preserved in a good degree of watchfulness and favoured with peaceful serenity.

17. A trying day and night, in beholding the conflict of our dear friend in putting off the shackles of mortality; which she was mercifully

released from about twenty minutes before eight o'clock this morning, which we that had been witness to her sufferings esteemed a favour. Some hours before the solemn close, as dear Morris Birkbeck and I were sitting together, a sweet calm spread over our minds, which seemed to me like an evidence, that his dear wife's spirit was near centering beyond the reach of pain and sorrow.

18. Morris Birkbeck was strengthened to get out to meeting to-day, where he supplicated for resignation. It was to my poor wearied mind a refreshing season, feeling something of the holy unction to rest upon it.

20. Was desirous of digging deep, that I might be favoured with the renewed discovery of the ancient foundation, which was in great condescension vouchsafed.

25. Several friends came to attend the burial of dear Sarah Birkbeck. The meeting was held in silence, but I thought the forepart, particularly, was covered with a degree of solemnity.

24. Was jealous over myself that I had not attained to that strength and stature designed for me, had I been more watchful and stable. May this jealousy and fear excite me to ponder well the path of my feet.

29. Pretty much engaged the remainder of the week, in preparing for leaving home; yet not I trust to the entire neglect of the one thing needful.

May I ever chuse this better part, and then I have faith to believe, it will never be taken from me.

FOURTH MONTH, 1804.

1. Some renewal of my spiritual strength. Left home this evening.

3. The quarterly meeting. I thought it a more favoured season than it is often our lot to experience at such times; and the business got through more satisfactorily; for which I felt a degree of thankfulness: as well as in beholding some growth, as I apprehended, in some of our young members.

5. Set forward for Alton, in company with Morris Birkbeck, at which place the yearly meeting's committee met, as proposed at parting in the twelfth month.

18. This morning, after a contriting season together, our little company began to separate in the fresh feeling of that love, which had sweetly united us in moving along through this arduous engagement: for which, with many other blessings dispensed, I desire to be reverently thankful.

21. Since my return home, although I have felt unusually impoverished, yet a degree of peaceful quiet has accompanied my mind, and some aspirations after increasing dedication and conformity of will to the Divine will.

22. Some searching of heart, and calling to mind the manifold favours of a merciful God, towards one of the meanest of his works.

25. Deeply humbled on turning over some of the leaves of my past life, to see how much goodness and mercy have been extended from time to time, yea all my life long, to so unworthy a creature. May it excite to double diligence, for surely the debt I owe is beyond all calculation. Content not thyself, O my soul, with making these remarks, but endeavour to dwell and move under an humbling sense of thy obligation.

27. The prayer of my heart was, that not an impure or offensive thought might arise, but, that the food most convenient for me might be graciously dispensed.

29. Instructive seasons to my waiting soul, both morning and afternoon meetings.

FIFTH MONTH, 1804.

1. Humbled under some affecting considerations.

4. I thought the Lord was near us to-day, known as formerly by the breaking of bread, to the refreshment of the souls of some of us.

6. Seasons of renewed favour to-day at meeting, so that I could adopt the words of the psalmist, "What is man that thou art mindful of him, and the Son of man that thou visitest him," &c.

9. Went to Guildford on business. Attended the week-day meeting. I thought the spring of life lay low, and my mind not sufficiently divested from the business I had been engaged in, previously to going to meeting, to dig very deep; so that I gained but little by going.

11. Renewedly besought deliverance from the bondage of corruption, that I might indeed witness the glorious liberty of the children of God.

17. Though I have been pretty fully occupied with business the last few days, my mind hath been favoured with sweet serenity, having been preserved in a good degree within the divine inclosure. What a mercy!

19. Had afresh to acknowledge, with humble gratitude, that good is the Lord and worthy to be praised, and that by the whole house of Israel.

21. Attended the first sitting of the yearly meeting, which I thought was owned by condescending goodness.

30. I thought the last sitting of the yearly meeting eminently favoured. We separated under a precious solemn covering, and I believe the humble, grateful language of many minds was, What shall we render unto thee, O Lord, for all thy benefits?

SIXTH MONTH, 1804.

4. Came home in health, and found my beloved mother so; for which favour, with many others lately dispensed, I desire to be humbly thankful.

8. Went to our monthly meeting at Guildford, which proved, contrary to expectation, an instructive and strengthening season; yet I feared some present resembled the sluggard who was desirous of a little more sleep, and a little more slumber, and folding of the hands to sleep. O that these may be roused to a sense of their danger, lest they "beg in harvest, and have nothing."

10. Saw afresh the necessity of watchfulness and prayer; and desired that I might dwell within this holy inclosure.

14. On looking back to my last remark, may with thankfulness acknowledge that the petition of my heart hath been mercifully granted: having been favoured to keep near the centre of good, and draw my fresh springs from that sacred source.

15. Desired to hunger patiently this morning at meeting, rather than presume to carve for myself; well knowing it is the Lord's prerogative to feed his dependant children: which, after a time of waiting, he condescended to do, by handing a little of his soul-satisfying food.

17. Was favoured to sit under the divine anointing in both meetings. Inestimable privilege! How lamentable that any should slight it!

19. An exercising day to my mind through the cause suffering from unfaithfulness in an aged friend. Endeavoured to clear myself of him; but did not do it in the way that appeared most satisfactory to myself, being discouraged.

22. Better tidings from Ireland respecting my poor brother, cause of thankfulness. May he prize the mercies of a long-suffering God towards him.

24. In grateful remembrance of the Lord's tender mercies I can this day renewedly set up my Ebenezer, and say, "Hitherto, the Lord hath helped me."

28. Received the affecting account of my beloved sister Waring's being alarmingly ill. Thus wave upon wave is permitted to follow us; yet was favoured to feel my mind in a good degree divinely anchored. What a mercy!

30. A rather more favourable account of my beloved sister. May we be sufficiently thankful.

SEVENTH MONTH, 1804.

1. Rather a conflicting season at meeting this morning; the evening more lively.

3. Our quarterly-meeting. Tabitha Middleton, Susanna Horne, and Thomas Ashby, appeared acceptably, as did the two former in the meeting for

discipline. I was enabled to get through the business better than my cowardly heart had anticipated; yet I well know from whence my help came, for which I felt thankful, and I think humble.

6. A conflicting day to my poor mind, the monthly meeting appointing me an elder; which though I had reason to expect, it having been laid before me many months for my consideration, yet I did not suppose the appointment would be made, without giving me an opportunity of expressing my feelings on the subject, an awful one to me truly.

8. More quiet and comfortable, though led as into the stripping-room, where I have renewedly seen my own insufficiency for every good work; yet my faith and confidence a little renewed in the sufficiency of God.

10. A depressing day to my feelings from various causes, yet a little relieved by writing to an individual whom I sincerely love; to warn her of her danger, as I apprehend.

12. Sadness is still the secret covering of my mind. May I dwell patiently and humbly under it, that so it may tend to my refinement: then will all work together for good.

13. I accompanied Tabitha Middleton to Guildford, an exercising meeting. She spake of the famine in Samaria, with the king's answer to the poor woman when she cried to him for help:

which passage* had repeatedly passed my mind before she stood up.

15. On a strict scrutiny into the motives for action, saw that I had been seeking the honour, or at least the approbation, of poor finite creatures like myself; rather than the honour which comes from God: which humbled me, and led me to crave preservation from every snare of an unwearied enemy.

18. A fresh scene of trial opened: I was desirous of patiently abiding under it.

19. More comfortable, and hoped things might turn out better than we had reason to fear, so that I could adopt the following lines:

“ This day, be bread and peace my lot :

“ All else beneath the sun,

“ Thou know’st if best bestowed or not,

“ And let thy will be done.”

20. Went to meeting with a mind much uncumbered, hoping for a good meeting; but found I was not to eat the bread of idleness, nor did I desire to do so; but found strength to wrestle for the blessing which was in a good degree answered: though I thought an unskilful appearance hurt the meeting.

27. This last week hath been attended with

* The text is, “ If the Lord do not help thee, whence shall I help thee?”

peculiar difficulties, that hadwenot been surrounded with kind friends who cheerfully shared with us the trial of the day, know not how we should have got on.

29. Was enabled through divine assistance to mount a little above the encumbering cares of this life, and renew my spiritual strength, this morning in our silent meeting; which I esteemed a great favour, after so harrassing a time.

EIGHTH MONTH, 1804.

5. Was favoured sweetly to repose all my cares in Him, who is the health of my countenance and my God. In our silent sitting in the evening saw that it would not do for the faithful, in this day of deep revolt, of perplexity and treading down, to dwell as in ceiled houses; but that each should endeavour to put on strength in the name of the Lord, to arise and build.

9. Came to Staines.

12. A time of wading in the morning meeting, for methought the spring of life lay low; yet was enabled to petition for myself, and for the wanderers present, that we might be gathered. In the evening was desirous of keeping my heart with all diligence, that so my evening sacrifice might find acceptance with the Father of mercies; which I trust was in a good degree the case.

15. The monthly meeting, and though a

pretty many valuable friends attended, yet I thought it was not a season of rejoicing.

16. Was favoured this morning in the week-day meeting, to draw water out of the reach of the archers. Inestimable privilege !

19. Having missed my way, a day of deserved humiliation succeeded : under which I was favoured, through gracious condescension, to feel something like forgiveness and reconciliation.

22. Although made sensible of my manifold infirmities as a creature, yet was favoured and refreshed with the lifting up of the light of the Lord's countenance upon me.

26. Mourned over a fallen sister : yet I trust not in a pharisaical spirit ; for I felt, renewedly felt that my backslidings had been many, though more concealed. I thought I could willingly have gone and sat by her in that state of humiliation which I craved for her ; so that she might witness forgiveness, and endeavour by her future conduct to wipe away the reproach she hath brought on friends and the Truth.

30. A time of sweet solace in the week-day meeting, a favour I esteemed myself unworthy of.

NINTH MONTH, 1804.

1. Returned home in health and with a peaceful mind. May I walk worthy such unmerited mercies.

2. Sat again with my dear friends in our little

silent meeting, in I think a good degree of humble watchfulness.

11. Have been confined to my chamber, and mostly to my bed, since my last remark, by an unexpected attack of fever; yet have to acknowledge that I have been mercifully dealt with every way: not only my bodily sufferings mitigated by every attention that friendship and kindness could suggest; but (though in the beginning I was tried with the withdrawals of heavenly love and life, yet afterwards) I was favoured to find Him whom my soul loveth; yea I sought him on my bed, and found him near, to my great refreshment. What an unspeakable mercy to one so unworthy!

12. Notwithstanding the above recited mercies I behaved foolishly and airy yesterday evening, for which I felt deserved reproof, and feel to-day much in the valley; a safe though lowly situation: may I keep my abiding here.

16. Gradually recovering; but the extreme heat of the weather prevents my gaining strength fast, and also deters me from venturing to meeting to-day. I think it was not for want of inclination, for it would have been pleasant to sit with my friends. However through gracious condescension I was favoured with some access to Him who is not confined to space or time, in my solitary sitting.

20. The prospect of the approaching quarterly meeting looks awful to me, being on a weighty appointment. I have endeavoured this day to repose my care upon that divine arm of help which alone

can qualify for every good word and work. May I be preserved in child-like simplicity, having no confidence in the flesh.

23. Was favoured to renew my strength and confidence in the all-sufficient Arm of help.

24. Went to Horsham, and sat with a committee on the consideration of suitable friends for the station of elders: a painful sitting indeed! I was afraid of darkening counsel by words without knowledge; but through divine assistance was enabled to stand firm against what I believed a wrong appointment, in which I found a degree of sweet peace.

25. The quarterly meeting, an uncommon distressing season. I desired, when I took my seat, to be with the true seed whether in suffering or rejoicing; and truly the former was the portion of divers, if not of most. We seemed to be enveloped in a cloud of darkness, such as I scarcely remember to have felt, till near the close; when a little light arose into dominion, and a friend present was enabled to sound forth an alarm, desiring us to search individually into the cause. The meeting of business also trying, some of the answers to the queries manifesting much defection; yet no way clearly opening for an appointment, it was judged safest to leave it to future consideration.

28. The awful situation of things affected my mind and raised a petition that we might be spared a little longer; that the heathen might not triumph over us saying, "Where is their God."

30. Some doubts and fears, lest I should not so run as to obtain, encompassed my poor mind, soon after my sitting down at meeting this morning: when some gracious promises were in great condescension brought livingly to my remembrance, to the lifting up of my head, and confirming my feeble knees. Thus bountifully is the Lord dealing with one of the meanest of his creatures. May I ever live to praise and adore his excellent name.

TENTH MONTH, 1804.

5. Our monthly meeting at Guildford, wherein I desired to be preserved from hewing out cisterns for myself, or resting satisfied with any thing short of partaking of the well-spring of life; which was renewedly revealed to my waiting soul, to my humble admiration: and I longed that all present might come, taste and see, for themselves, how good the Lord is.

7. Desired that I might be enabled to offer a pure offering this morning, unmixed with the activity of the creature; that so it might find acceptance with Him who is perfect in holiness. The afternoon meeting I thought very dull, nor did I keep so faithfully on the watch as I ought to have done.

10. Think I have been favoured to move along the last three days with a good degree of safety.

11. It was with me a time of deep wrestling,

this morning, before I could find access to the Fountain of living waters, after which my soul thirsted; yet, thanks be to the holy name, my labour was not altogether in vain.

14. I believe a remnant were favoured to sit under their own vine and fig-tree, and feed as beside the still waters, this morning at meeting.

17. My mind under depressing sensations from various causes; under which I have endeavoured to centre near the only source of good and true consolation.

21. Desired this morning to sit at Wisdom's gate, and to be found waiting at the posts of her door. How did my soul long that all present knew the preciousness of pure silent worship, wherein [the soul] breathes forth its wants to its heavenly Creator; who at seasons is pleased to replenish it abundantly: for ever blessed be his excellent name. He is not saying to the seed of Jacob, "Seek ye me in vain."

28. Rather stripping seasons both morning and afternoon meetings. I desired to hunger and thirst patiently.

ELEVENTH MONTH, 1864.

2. This morning unexpectedly dear William Jackson [of Pennsylvania] came, and attended our monthly meeting. He appeared acceptably in the meeting for worship; though he said he believed

he might appeal to the feelings of some present that the well was indeed deep, desiring we might not be discouraged, neither content ourselves with a traditional belief of the truths of the gospel.

4. Dear William Jackson still with us, and labouring in gospel love, to gather the outcasts of Israel into the fold of true rest and peace.

6. I accompanied W. J. to Alton. He had a meeting next morning at eleven o'clock, in which he was led in an encouraging line to the true mourners, and sweetly invited the children present to seek the Lord for themselves, &c. Not finding himself clear of Guildford, he returned and had a meeting there on sixth-day afternoon, in which he was led in a close searching testimony, endeavouring to rouse the lukewarm to a sense of their danger, and in persuasive language inviting to follow those things that make for peace.

11. I thought the morning meeting a precious favoured season, both in the silent part of it, and under the lively ministry of William; who was concerned to have a public meeting in the evening, particularly desiring the company of the poor, and it was mostly this class attended. I thought him remarkably clothed for this service, explaining with great clearness the nature of true gospel worship, and directing the attention of the people to the inward teacher.

12. Our dear friend left us and went forward for Chichester. We parted in sweet fellowship, of which I thought myself unworthy to partake.

14. My mind much tried with various discouragements, under which I have endeavoured to keep in the stillness, and feel after that Rock which is an anchor sure and stedfast. O that my abiding was more constantly here: then should I not be so often the sport of winds and waves.

15. Still under depressing feelings: but I have remembered that man is not to live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. May I patiently abide every humbling dispensation.

18. Proving seasons both morning and afternoon meetings; yet was favoured not to let go my hold, though my faith was at a low ebb, and the prayer of my heart was that I might keep the word of the Lord's patience, that so I might be kept from the hour of temptation.

19. Sackcloth is still the secret covering of my mind, although I appear not unto men to fast.

23. I think my soul was bowed in deep prostration before the God of my life, who was graciously pleased to own me in this low estate by the lifting up of the light of his countenance upon me. May I walk worthy such unmerited mercy.

25. A day of heaviness of spirit, yet a little of the oil was graciously dispensed to my drooping soul in the morning meeting. In the afternoon mourning was my portion.

28. Desirous that the day's work may keep pace with the day, yet encompassed with fears, lest it should fall short. May the Lord be

my refuge in the day of trouble, and then let come what will come.

TWELFTH MONTH, 1804.

1. Still moving heavily on my way ; discouragements from within and without ; yet have not let go my confidence, which I esteem a mercy from the Lord.

2. Afflictions still await us. May they have the designed effect, which is, doubtless, to wean us from every earthly dependance, and incite to seek with more fervency an habitation that hath foundations, eternal in the heavens. Ah, may I indeed so run as to obtain this enduring treasure ; for here seems no rest for my wearied soul.

3. Thoroughly dissatisfied with myself, believing I have not been so watchful as I should have been, and therefore am deservedly disquieted.

6. Our monthly meeting at Guildford, an unusually exercising time to me from several causes. Paid off a little debt to a beloved nephew and niece.

9. My head a little lifted above the waves of discouragement, and my soul for a season arrayed with the garment of praise, being graciously admitted into the presence of its beloved.

11. In some degree pressing after the mark for the prize.

12. Felt somewhat of a draft to retirement, but let trifles put me by, so that it is probable I missed of an intended good : to my shame I record it.

14. Renewedly besought deliverance from all evil, for I found the tempter near, spreading his snares in order to catch my weak mind ; but being favoured to see the bait, I repaired to the Name of the Lord, which thanks be to him, continues to be a strong tower where indeed there is safety.

18. Came to Guildford and attended the week-day meeting, in which I was unexpectedly refreshed after a time of digging.

20. Not enough circumspect, as I saw by bringing my deeds to the light: yet I think I love the reproofs of instruction, knowing they are the way to life.

23. Desired this day the Lord's hand would not spare, nor his eye pity, until he had made me what he would have me to be. May that which is designed for the sword perish by the sword, that every thing that is not of his right-hand planting may be rooted up. Oh, can I be fit to overlook others vineyards, when I find so much to do in my own, so much cause for weeding, digging and pruning : surely there is no time for idleness !

24. Think I have been enabled to step along in a good degree of safety the last few days, though I have not been without my exercises.

30. Went to Horsham, to attend our quarterly meeting, where I met with dear William

Jackson, George and Mary Stacey, &c. Brother Kidd and myself took our seats in the meeting of ministers and elders; an awful time to my mind though much encouragement was handed us, by the beloved friends above-mentioned.

31. also 1805. First month 1, 2, 3. The quarterly meeting. The meeting for worship I thought a favoured season. William Jackson first stood up with these words, "Prepare to meet thy God, "O Israel;" and a second time with, "Let God arise; let his enemies be scattered." The meeting for discipline trying to my feelings. Here an appointment took place to visit the monthly meeting of Chichester which somewhat relieved me. At the conclusion of the meeting for worship, William Jackson requested to have another next morning at ten o'clock; which proved a strengthening, encouraging season to many minds; also a sitting in the evening, in which William was led to speak of the parable of the prodigal son, enlarging on the latter part of it, the elder son's displeasure at his fathers' reception of his poor brother, and his fathers' reply, "Thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine," inferring from hence that the righteous should not repine, that their reward is sure. Spent the evening pleasantly at William Swan's, and next morning, after a sitting, parted in sweet fellowship. Notwithstanding these abundant unmerited favours, through unwatchfulness, I re-

turned with the fear of having incurred condemnation, instead of the sweet reward of peace. Thus am I staggering on in this important journey, sometimes making a little progress, and again halting and stumbling; and have the ground to go over again. May I be enabled so to run as in the end to obtain; then will all the trials and perplexities of time appear lighter than vanity, compared with the joys of God's salvation.

FIRST MONTH, 1805.

3. On my return home, met with a fresh trial, in which I was so involved, that I reaped but little benefit by going to meeting.

7. Methought the situation of my mind to-day at meeting resembled the valley of Jehosaphat where the Lord pleads with his people; yet I think I love to meet him even in the way of his judgments, for these have ever been mixed with mercy. "Bless the Lord" then "O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies!"

10. Too much of a Martha.

11. Desired that not only the dross and the tin might be taken away, but also the reprobate silver; every thing specious that is not truly solid

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and valuable ; for nothing else will find acceptance with perfect purity and goodness.

13. A little animated to press forward, through the crowd of difficulties that present.

14. A time of digging to-day in both meetings, for I thought the spring of life lay low, and but few present concerned to labour for its arising ; or surely we should have been favoured with more of the bubblings-up thereof.

16. Yielded foolishly to a temptation, so that sadness is deservedly the covering of my mind.

17. Have renewedly experienced that strait indeed is the gate, and narrow the way which leadeth unto life. May I be one of the few that are enabled, through divine assistance, to walk therein ; though I often fear I shall miss the glorious recompence of reward, that awaits the righteous.

20. My dwelling has been for the last two days, in a land of drought with but little verdure.

21. Closely beset by the enemy of all good, nay I thought he pursued me to the very horns of the altar, where I fled for safety ; but thanks be to the God of my life who rebuked him ; so that I could say, " Hitherto hath the Lord helped me."

23. Though I have felt very poor the last two days, so that I have at times said, " My leanness, " my leanness !" yet think I have been preserved in a humble resigned frame of mind, from a deep sense of my utter unworthiness of divine regard.

25. I trust the warfare is still measurably maintained, though feebly.

26. I seemed uncommonly empty and stripped of good in the forepart of the meeting, under which I desired to wait patiently, rather than worship any device of my own; besides, I considered my unworthiness to approach perfect purity; yet in this low estate he condescended to favour with access to his life-giving presence, and measurably arrayed my poor soul with the garment of praise.

28. I went to meeting this morning in a quiet frame of mind, hoping to receive spiritual refreshment, and think I laboured according to ability received, yet desertion and poverty was my portion, so that a sigh and a tear seemed all I had to offer; which was much the case again this afternoon, so that I thought my offering was not equal to the turtle doves and pigeons under the law: yet believed it safest to obtrude nothing of my own.

SECOND MONTH, 1804.

1. It continues to be a winter season with me. May I patiently endure every turning of the divine hand upon me, in order to cleanse and purify from every defilement, for I fear I have not so fully surrendered all that is appointed for de-

struction, as may have been required. What a great work is the soul's redemption! Never did it appear more awful, or more precious.

3. Our monthly meeting at Guildford. In the meeting for worship, my soul travelled as in a wilderness country, and but little light shone on my path; yet, towards the conclusion, infinite Goodness opened something like a spring in the desert to my great refreshment, and consolation. May he ever have the praise of his own works.

4. Wrestling seasons both morning and afternoon meetings; yet my labour was not altogether in vain in the Lord.

6. Felt something like a little greenness, so that I was enabled to rejoice in God my Saviour. Inestimable privilege! May I sufficiently prize it.

8. I think I did not eat the bread of idleness to-day at meeting, nor do I desire to do it, knowing it is my indispensable duty to labour for it, and that it is well worth all our pains when favoured to partake of it. And the secret petition of my heart was, that the food most convenient for us, might be dispensed to each individual present.

11. Went to Chichester in company with Morris Birkbeck, brother Kidd, and Elizabeth Moline, by appointment from the quarterly-meeting to visit that monthly meeting, where we found things mournfully low, the work resting on an individual or two, with whom we nearly sympathized, yet could see no way to relieve them. I

staid the remainder of the week with my kind friends James and Sarah Hack, pleasantly, attended their week-day and first-day meetings, which were rather laborious seasons to my feeble mind, yet not uninstrucive.

18. Felt weak and poor every way, being considerably indisposed in body.

20. Returned home, found my beloved mother in good health, which I esteem a favour.

22. Our little week-day meeting proved a sweetly solacing season; in which my faith and confidence in the divine all-sufficiency were renewed.

24. A time of searching of heart this morning at meeting, in which I endeavoured to bring my deeds to the light, to see whether they were such as would find acceptance in the divine sight. Staid at home in the afternoon from indisposition.

26. Felt something of a godly jealousy over myself, fearing the day's work had not kept pace with the day. Sorrowful indeed would it be, if I should be found without oil in my lamp, when the midnight cry is sounded within my borders.

THIRD MONTH, 1805.

1. Our select meeting this evening; we had the company of dear Sarah Hack, who handed forth a little encouragement to my feeble mind.

2. Our monthly meeting. I did not attend the meeting for worship, not feeling sufficient strength to attend both. I was enabled to get through the business better than I expected. [the clerk being absent] At this meeting my beloved Sibylla Turnour was received into membership.

4. Was renewedly desirous of being enabled to fight the good fight, and keep the faith; that so in the end I may obtain the crown; but remember, O my soul, that if thou wouldest reign with Christ, thou must also be willing to suffer with him. Thou must drink of the cup that he drank of for thy sake, and be baptized with the baptism that he was baptized with. Canst thou say, with the disciples, that thou art able? Alas! poor and frail am I, sensible that I cannot take one step aright without his divine aid.

5. Have lamented my proneness to centre in visible things, and my want of fervency of spirit Godward.

6. Was enabled this morning to draw near to the Fountain and Source of all good, whereby my spiritual strength was measurably renewed.

11. "I remember thee, [the kindness of thy youth] and the love of thine espousals," &c. was brought with some degree of freshness into my mind this morning; and I also remembered the day of precious visitation; when the Lord in gracious condescension allured my desires after him, when he took me as to his banquetting-

house. His fruit was indeed sweet to my taste, and his banner over me was love; and though I trust he is still to my heart the "chiefest amongst ten thousand," yet how often have my hands been weakened by turning aside to follow lying vanities; or else I believe I should by this time have witnessed a more complete victory over my souls enemies.

Sixth-day. Methought my vessel was a little replenished with heavenly oil in our silent meeting. A favour I esteemed myself unworthy of.

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